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Harris exit points to hurdles facing minority candidates

By ERRIN HAINES
AP National Writer

Kamala Harris cloaked her presidential campaign in the promise of becoming the first black woman in the White House. That wasn't enough for donors and supporters, including black voters. The California senator abruptly withdrew from the race on Tuesday after her once-promising campaign failed to coalesce around a message that would resonate with voters. And without clear support from voters, Harris couldn't raise the money needed to keep going. Responsibility for the collapse of a presidential campaign almost always rests with the candidate. But Harris' exit also demonstrates the unique challenges facing candidates of color in the 2020 campaign.



In this Nov. 20, 2019 file photo, Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., speaks during a Democratic presidential primary debate in Atlanta.

Continued on Page 2

Associated Press



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Harris exit points to hurdles facing minority candidates

Continued from Front

As Democratic voters of all races almost singularly obsess over who is seen as best positioned to defeat President Donald Trump next year, candidates who aren't white are largely seen as not fitting the bill. With less than two months before voting begins, those judgments — right or wrong — are becoming fatal as donors watch these cues to decide when to pull back. "It's the money, it's the support, it's the polls. ... It's an assumption for black candidates that their campaigns are long shots," said Quentin James, the founder and executive director



In this Nov. 8, 2019, file photo, then-Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., reacts as she speaks at a town hall event at the Culinary Workers Union in Las Vegas. Associated Press

of CollectivePAC, an organization aimed at building black political power.

"We're left to wonder why is it that a candidate's race still impacts how much

money they can raise or how much support they get from institutional Democratic donors."

Of course, Barack Obama, the first black president, is one of the most successful Democratic fundraisers, still collecting millions of dollars for the party nearly three years after he left the White House. And plenty of white candidates have had money problems this year. John Hickenlooper, the former governor of Colorado, couldn't raise enough money for his presidential bid and chose to run for the U.S. Senate instead. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York is a powerhouse fundraiser in her home state but couldn't translate that success to her presidential campaign and dropped out in August. Montana Gov. Steve Bullock ended his campaign this week, also bemoaning money trouble.

But other white candidates have had success that women and candidates of color have said isn't available to them. Harris, for instance, is the highest-ranking black woman in the U.S. government. But the \$35.5 million she raised during her campaign falls far short of the \$51.5 million that Pete Buttigieg, the 37-year-old white mayor of South Bend, Indiana, has collected. Other white candidates with big questions about their electability have also hauled in substantial sums of money. Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders has raised \$61 million — more than any of his rivals — despite debate over whether his policies are too liberal. Concerns over the 78-year-old's candidacy also grew after he had a heart attack

in October. He has since returned to active campaigning.

Former Vice President Joe Biden is legendarily gaffe-prone and also faces questions about whether, at 77, he's too old to manage the demands of the presidency. But he's raised \$37.7 million, topping Harris even though he launched his campaign more than two months after she did.

This is not just about Harris. New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker has struggled to raise money. In September, he pleaded with supporters to donate \$1.7 million in 10 days to keep him in the race. On the debate stage last month, he turned his closing statement into another pitch for cash, raising over \$500,000 in nine hours. Although he has met the fundraising threshold for this month's debate, low polling numbers may keep him off the stage for the first time.

"People assume he's going to be in this all the way because he's credentialed and such a serious candidate," said Jenna Lowenstein, Booker's deputy campaign manager. "We saw it coming, that this was going to narrow this way, that it was going to be because of money. We've really been looking for every opportunity when eyeballs are on us to make direct appeals because every time we do it, it works."

Former Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julián Castro — a Latino whose successful 10-day, \$800,000 fundraising push in October brought his campaign back from the brink — may miss the debate stage for the second time in a row. □

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Texas judge orders border wall fundraiser not to build

By NOMAAN MERCHANT

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — A local judge in South Texas has ordered supporters of President Donald Trump not to build their planned private border wall on a section of land near the Rio Grande. State District Judge Keno Vasquez on Tuesday issued a temporary restraining order against We Build the Wall, which raised \$25 million after promising to build its own private barrier. Vasquez set a Dec. 17 hearing for We Build the Wall and its founder, Brian Kolfage, to appear in court in the South Texas city of Edinburg.

We Build the Wall announced on Facebook last month that it was starting construction on private land next to the Rio Grande, the river that separates the U.S. and Mexico in Texas. It posted videos that showed a construction foreman describing plans to install posts a short distance from the riverbank.

The announcement drew immediate criticism from the nonprofit National But-



This Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019, file photo and provided by the National Butterfly Center shows what the center's director, Marianna Wright, says is land cleared in preparation to build a separation wall on the border of the United States and Mexico in the Rio Grande Valley, Texas.

Associated Press

terfly Center, which is located near the site and filed the motion for the temporary restraining order.

Wall opponents who say private construction could worsen erosion or push floodwaters onto other people's property in a storm.

The butterfly center and the advocacy group EarthJustice issued a statement Wednesday calling We Build the Wall's plans "illegal."

"The incredible biodiversity found here, supported and enhanced by 17 years of labor and millions of dollars

of investment, is integral to the health of a fragile, but vibrant ecosystem and warrants protection against this unlawful incursion," said Dr. Jeffrey Glassberg, president of the North American Butterfly Association, in a statement.

The plans also drew the at-

tention of the International Boundary and Water Commission, an agency set up by the U.S. and Mexico under treaty obligations where both sides agree to cooperate on any changes to the riverbank that could affect the other side. The commission has asked We Build the Wall and Fisher Industries, its construction partner, for more information. Kolfage on Wednesday re-affirmed that his organization won't begin construction until it gets the commission's approval.

Kolfage said We Build the Wall overcame local opposition on its first project — less than 1 mile (1.6 kilometers) built near El Paso, Texas — that included pushback from officials and the water commission. So far, the construction in Sunland Park, New Mexico, is the only barrier the group has built since its founding in December 2018.

"The courts will prevail in our favor because, obviously, what we're doing is legal," he said, adding that claims to the contrary were "100% false." □

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Barr set for Mexican meetings as U.S. seeks cartel crackdown

By **MICHAEL BALSAMO**
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General William Barr will meet with Mexico's president and law enforcement officials about one week after President Donald Trump suggested that the United States would seek to classify Mexican drug cartels as terrorist or-

Attorney General William Barr listens as President Donald Trump speaks during an event to sign an executive order establishing the Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives, in the Oval Office of the White House, Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019, in Washington.

Associated Press

ganizations. Barr planned to be in Mexico City on Thursday for meetings with President Andrés Manuel López Obrador as well as the foreign minister, attorney general and others in law enforcement, according to a Justice Department official. Barr also was expected to meet with Justice Department and American federal law enforcement officials who work in Mexico. The visit comes amid a series of massacres in Mexico, which has seen its homicide rate increase to historically high levels this year. Critics have accused the Mexican government of lacking a coherent security strategy. Last week, Trump suggested that the U.S. government could move to label the cartels as foreign terror organizations, a designation that would put them in the same category as the Islamic State group and al-Qaida. Meanwhile, U.S. immigration officials continue to

send asylum-seekers back over the border to Mexico to wait while their claims are assessed under a policy designed to stop the flow of migrants into the U.S. More than 55,000 people have been stranded in Mexico in deplorable conditions, some in areas marred by cartel violence. Some U.S. officials, such as Ken Cuccinelli, the acting deputy at the Homeland Security Department, have claimed that the area is safe and suggested that criticism of Mexico is unfair. Nine U.S. dual citizens were slaughtered in northern Mexico last month, with authorities suspecting that drug cartel hit men may be responsible, and 22 people were killed in a weekend gun battle between drug cartel members and security forces near the U.S.-Mexico border. The official spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity to discuss the trip before it was publicly announced. □

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ICE: Protest at Louisiana jail ends after pepper spray used



In a Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019 file photo, a guard walks on a path between yards during a media tour inside the Winn Correctional Center in Winnfield, La.

Associated Press

By **NOMAAN MERCHANT**

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said officers inside one of its Louisiana jails pepper-sprayed migrants to end their protest over prolonged detention.

Spokesman Bryan Cox said Wednesday that "a brief, calculated use of pepper spray was employed" during a Tuesday protest at the Winn Correctional Center in rural Winnfield. Cox said about 50 migrants were pepper-sprayed and

the protesters "subsequently became compliant." Cox said medical staff evaluated anyone who came into contact with the pepper spray and no injuries were reported.

Family members of people detained at Winn said some migrants had refused to go back to their cell and were sleeping outside. Others had written the word "Libertad" — Spanish for 'liberty' — on bedsheets and towels.

Lawyers say asylum seekers have staged protests

at other ICE jails in Louisiana, where the immigrant detainee population has surged in recent months and hit 8,000 earlier this year. Asylum seekers from Cuba and other countries say they're being detained for months without a court date or a chance to request their release even after passing an initial screening to determine whether they have a viable asylum claim. One 43-year-old man from Cuba, Roylan Hernandez Diaz, died by apparent suicide in Octo-

ber at another Louisiana jail, the Richwood Correctional Center. Hernandez had applied for asylum at a border bridge in El Paso, Texas, was deemed "inadmissible" by border agents and was placed in detention for five months.

"The psychological impact of situations like this is horrendous," said Nathalia Dickson, an immigration attorney based in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

A federal judge in September sided with the Southern Poverty Law Center, which sued on behalf of asylum seekers detained in Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi, and ordered ICE to follow its own guidelines in releasing detainees.

Both Winn and Richwood are operated by the same Louisiana-based company, LaSalle Corrections, which operates several jails and prisons converted into immigration detention centers since last year.

Cox, the ICE spokesman, said the agency used pepper spray "when the ICE detainees refused to comply despite repeated attempts by facility staff and ICE officers to disperse the group and restore orderly operation of the facility."

"This was a calculated use of force, consistent with agency protocol," Cox said. □

Protesters rally for detained Uzbek immigrant, a father of 3

By **CHRIS EHRMANN**

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Over a dozen people gathered Wednesday in front of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement office in Hartford to protest the nearly 2-year-long detention of a Connecticut immigrant marked for deportation.

Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin joined the wife of Bakhodir Madjitov and others to support Bakhodir Madjitov, an Uzbek immigrant and father of three children, all of whom are U.S. citizens.

"I'm living in pain with broke bones since my third child was born; I can neither

work nor live peacefully," his wife, Madina Madjitov, said at the rally. "I don't think I can provide normal life without my husband for my children."

Diana Blank, one of the man's lawyers, said he was granted in November two temporary emergency stays of removal by federal courts. He originally had a final order of removal of no later than Dec. 2. It's unclear now how soon he could be deported.

"He has no criminal history, there is no allegation of any wrongdoing or any criminal history, they simply claim he's removable because he has an order of removal

and he overstayed his visa," she said. Bakhodir came to the United States in 2006, Blank said, and married his wife around 2010, who is now a U.S. citizen. He also applied for asylum after his visa expired but was denied, as was his appeal.

Bakhodir has been moved around the country to facilities in Massachusetts and an ICE processing center in Louisiana, Blank said. He is now in an ICE detention facility in Alabama.

ICE officials did not immediately return an email seeking comment.

At the rally, the Madjitovs' 7-year-old son Muhammad spoke, asking for ICE to re-

lease his father and saying his younger brother has not met him.

Immigration officials detained Bakhodir on Dec. 22, 2017, a week before his wife was due to give birth to their third child.

"The youngest has never met him; he poses no threat to anyone," Bronin said. "This is madness, so we gather today to ask ICE to let Bakhodir come home to his family."

"The legal process will continue, ICE's authorities will remain in place, but let him go, let him go home to these beautiful kids, let this little boy hug his dad for the first time in his life." □

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Deadly defect found in another version of Takata airbags

TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — A new and distinct problem has been discovered in air bags made by the now bankrupt company Takata which has led to at least one death. The recently discovered malfunction is different than the defect that led to at least 24 deaths and hundreds of injuries worldwide, though the result, like the earlier issue, leads to air bags that can explode and hurl shrapnel, killing or injuring people. Takata is adding about 1.4 million front driver inflators to recalls in the U.S., according to government documents posted Wednesday.

BMW is warning owners of some older 3-series cars to stop driving them.

A driver in Australia was killed by an airbag malfunction, while another Australian and a driver in Cyprus were injured, according to government documents.

Included in the recall Wednesday are more than 116,000 BMW 3-Series cars from the 1999 to 2001 model years. About 8,000 definitely have faulty inflators and should be parked, BMW said. The rest can still be driven.

In addition, certain Audi, Honda, Toyota and Mitsubishi vehicles made



This June 25, 2017 file photo shows TK Holdings Inc. headquarters in Auburn Hills, Mich. Bankrupt air bag maker Takata is recalling about 1.4 million driver's side inflators in the U.S. because they could explode and hurl shrapnel.

from 1995 to 2000 also are being recalled, but information on which models was not available Wednesday.

Unlike previous recalls, the Takata non-azide inflators do not use volatile ammonium nitrate to fill the air bags in a crash. But the air bag propellant can still deteriorate over time when exposed to moisture and explode too fast, blowing apart the inflator body. They also might not fully inflate to protect people in a crash. Takata says in government documents that it made about 4.5 million of the

inflators worldwide but only a portion are still in use because the vehicles are so old. The faulty inflators have problems with insufficient seals.

Toyota and Honda said they're still figuring out which models will have to be recalled. U.S. safety regulators said they were told by Mitsubishi that the only U.S. vehicle affected is the 1998 through 2000 Montero. A company spokesman was seeking more information.

In a statement, Audi said it is investigating whether any 1997 to 1999 model year

A4, A6, A8, or TT vehicles are affected in the U.S.

The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said in a statement that it is in discussions with automakers about the recalls. It urged owners to search for recalls in the coming weeks by entering their vehicle identification number at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls

In the BMW recalls, the company is recommending that people stop driving certain 1999 323i and 328i sedans made from July of 1998 through January of 1999. Spokesman Oleg

Associated Press

Satanovsky said those cars have inflators that were made at a Takata factory and are known to be faulty because they were manufactured before production improvements. The company also is recalling another 34,000 323i and 328i sedans from 1999-2000 and 323Ci and 328Ci coupes from the 2000 model year. These cars were made from March of 1998 through March of 2000 and have inflators made at two Takata plants that could be defective. Satanovsky says these cars will be inspected and some could get new inflators.

A third group of cars, just over 74,000, is being recalled. This group includes 323i, 325i, 328i, 330i sedans from the 1999 through 2001 model years. They were produced from May 1999 through July of 2000 and may have had air bag inflators replaced by defective ones. They also will be inspected.

BMW is still developing a remedy for the problem, but the company intends to replace faulty inflators with new ones. The company says owners will be notified when parts are available.

The recall is another in a long saga of problems with Takata inflators that sent the company into bankruptcy. □

Boeing chief engineer who defended Max airliner is retiring

CHICAGO (AP) — The Boeing engineer who has played a key role in the company's response to the grounding of the 737 Max is retiring.

Boeing said Wednesday that John Hamilton planned to retire last year as chief engineer of commercial airplanes, but he stayed on to help get the Max back into service.

Hamilton appeared alongside CEO Dennis Muilenburg during two congressional hearings in late October and explained the design and production of the Max, which has been grounded since March following two deadly crashes. Hamilton acknowledged



In this Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2019, file photo, Boeing Commercial Airplanes Vice President and Chief Engineer John Hamilton, testifies during a House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee hearing, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

Boeing made some mistakes. Those included not hav-

ing tested whether a faulty sensor could trigger the plane's anti-stall system,

which investigators believe happened in both crashes, pushing down the noses of the planes.

At other times he defended Boeing's safety culture. While a couple lawmakers expressed frustration with Hamilton's answers, they reserved most of their anger for Muilenburg.

Hamilton has spent 35 years at Boeing and served as chief project engineer for several planes including the 737 NG, the version that preceded the Max.

He was responsible for engineering design and safety for all Boeing airliners when the company got final approval of the Max from the Federal Aviation Adminis-

tration. He was named to his current position in March to deal with the accident investigations and other technical risks, according to the company.

Boeing's expectations for returning the Max to flight have been set back several times.

Boeing engineers began updating flight-control software called MCAS shortly after it was determined to have played a role in the crash of a Lion Air Max off the coast of Indonesia in October 2018.

They were still working on the software when an Ethiopian Airlines Max crashed near Addis Ababa in March. □



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Buffalo bishop resigns under fire for handling of misconduct

By NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Bishop Richard Malone of Buffalo resigned Wednesday, forced to step aside amid mounting calls for his ouster from his staff, priests and public over his handling of allegations of clergy sexual misconduct.

The Vatican said Pope Francis accepted the resignation and appointed Edward Scharfenberger, the bishop of Albany, New York, to run the Buffalo Diocese until a permanent replacement is found.

Malone insisted he had decided to retire two years before the mandatory retirement age of 75 on his own accord, after much prayer and discernment. However, the Vatican embassy to the U.S. said Malone only offered to retire after learning the results of a Vatican-mandated investigation into the western New York diocese and its handling of abuse claims. In a statement, Malone said he had come to believe "that the spiritual welfare of the people of the Diocese of Buffalo will be better served by a new bishop who perhaps is better able to bring about the reconciliation, healing and renewal that is so needed." Scharfenberger told a news conference in Buffalo that he wants to be seen as a healer willing to listen and to develop trust.

"I feel a little bit like the neighbor down the block," he said, "and I realize that this family has been suffering quite a bit in recent months and years. And my

heart just goes out you. And what I see is a need for a tremendous amount of healing ... honest conversation, openness."

As the new apostolic administrator for Buffalo, Scharfenberger plans to visit the eight-county diocese weekly while keeping up with his duties in Albany. The diocese has been named in more than 220 recent lawsuits by people who allege they were sexually abused by priests.

Many of the allegations date back decades, long before Malone's arrival in Buffalo in 2012. But critics say there have been more recent missteps by Malone, including his decision to return to ministry a priest who had been suspended by a previous bishop for including "love you" in a Facebook message to an eighth-grade boy.

Malone later endorsed the same priest for a job as a cruise ship chaplain, even after he was also accused of making unwanted advances toward young men. Malone has admitted to making mistakes in cases involving adult victims. But he had firmly refused to resign and insisted he wanted to stay on the job to see the diocese through a process of "renewal."

Pressure on him to leave was intense.

In the past year, two key members of Malone's staff have gone public with concerns about his leadership, including his former secretary, the Rev. Ryszard Biernat, who secretly recorded Malone calling a then-active priest "a sick puppy,"



In this Nov. 5, 2018 file photo, Bishop Richard Malone of Buffalo, speaks during a news conference in Cheektowaga, N.Y.

Associated Press

but taking no immediate action to remove him.

Earlier, his executive assistant, Siobhan O'Connor, leaked internal church documents after becoming concerned that Malone had intentionally omitted dozens of names from a publicly released list of priests with credible allegations of abuse.

A diocesan priest, meanwhile, circulated a "no confidence" letter for signatures.

And in September, a group of lay Catholics that had been working with Malone to restore trust in the church instead joined in calls for his resignation.

The group, the Movement to Restore Trust, said it received word of Malone's departure "with a mixture of sadness and relief."

"There is much work to be

done to move our church toward this new day when sexual abuse and misconduct is unthinkable, when victims of sexual abuse achieve a measure of justice and healing from the Church that has wronged them, and when the laity are welcomed as equal participants with the clergy in the task of rebuilding the diocese," it said.

The Vatican hasn't released the results of the inquiry into Buffalo that was conducted by Brooklyn Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio.

Malone said he had been made aware of the "general conclusions" of the report and that they had been a factor in his decision to seek early retirement.

"It is my honest assessment that I have accomplished as much as I am able to, and that there remain divi-

sions and wounds that I am unable to bind and heal," he said.

DiMarzio said he had conducted his investigation with "urgency" at the request of the Holy See, interviewing 80 people over several weeks.

"I pray this moment of suffering and pain will lead to a birth of new faith," he said.

Among those who called for Malone's resignation was the former dean of seminarians at the diocese's Christ the King Seminary. In a letter outlining his decision to withdraw from his studies to become a priest, Stephen Parisi called the diocese's handling of clerical sexual abuse cases "disgusting and revolting" and raised questions about the institution's academic practices and oversight. □

Israeli PM, meeting Pompeo, calls for more pressure on Iran

By ARON HELLER

Associated Press

LISBON, Portugal (AP) —

Israel's prime minister on Wednesday praised the tough U.S. sanctions on Iran, saying the financial pressure has sparked protests against Tehran's influence across the region and urging even stronger action.

Speaking alongside U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo before their meeting, Netanyahu said "the first subject I will raise is Iran, the second subject is Iran and so is the third."

"Iran is increasing its aggression as we speak," he added. "We are actively engaging in countering that aggression."

Israel considers Iran to be its greatest enemy, citing its military entrenchment in neighboring Syria and its support for militant groups across the region. Israel also accuses Iran of try-



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attends the weekly cabinet meeting at his office in Jerusalem, Israel, Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019.

Associated Press

ing to develop a nuclear bomb — a charge Iran denies.

Earlier, Netanyahu said the

U.S. sanctions were creating political and economic problems for Iran, and that while he has given up on

European countries joining in the campaign, there is still a "wide spectrum" of options for ratcheting up the pressure.

Pompeo expressed support for recent protests in Iran, saying "these are people that are seeking freedom and a reasonable way to live, and they recognize the threat that's posed by the kleptocrats who are running the Islamic Republic of Iran."

Netanyahu last year welcomed the U.S. withdrawal from the international nuclear deal with Iran along with subsequent American sanctions. The sanctions, targeting Iran's vital oil sector, have hit the Iranian economy hard.

In recent weeks, Iranian forces have reportedly killed over 200 people in demonstrations against rising fuel prices. Demonstrations have also rocked pro-Iran governments in Lebanon and Iraq, forcing leaders in both countries to resign.

"We're seeing the Iranian empire totter. We see demonstrations in Tehran, demonstrations in Baghdad, demonstrations in Beirut," Netanyahu said earlier. "It's important to increase this pressure against Iranian aggression."

The Israeli leader said he would raise other issues

with Pompeo, insisting the strong support shown by the Trump administration creates a rare opportunity for Israel to pursue other initiatives.

He is eager for a political boost at a time when he is facing legal and political struggles at home. Netanyahu last month was indicted on a series of corruption charges, and the country appears to be barreling toward an unprecedented third election in under 12 months.

Netanyahu's visit with Pompeo was their first since the secretary of state announced a new American doctrine last month that does not consider Israeli settlements a violation of international law. It was the latest in a string of diplomatic gifts to Netanyahu by the Trump administration.

The Israeli leader said he was "very grateful" for the statement on settlements. Netanyahu had earlier said he would discuss his proposal to annex the Jordan Valley, a strategic part of the West Bank. Such a move would draw condemnation from the Palestinians and much of the world and almost certainly extinguish any remaining Palestinian hopes of gaining independence.

The Palestinians seek all of the West Bank, captured by Israel in 1967, as the heartland of their hoped-for state. Pompeo did not respond to a question about the Jordan Valley.

Netanyahu also said he would discuss a proposed joint defense treaty with the Americans. The talks may also touch on an Israeli initiative to formalize already warming ties with Gulf states, who consider Iran a common enemy, by signing non-belligerency agreements. The Trump administration already has delivered a number of landmark victories to Netanyahu, recognizing contested Jerusalem as Israel's capital and recognizing Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights, which it captured from Syria in 1967. □

France's Macron wants Africa's approval on military presence



French President Emmanuel Macron speaks during a media conference at the conclusion of a NATO leaders meeting at The Grove hotel and resort in Watford, Hertfordshire, England, Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019.

Associated Press

By SYLVIE CORBET

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — West African leaders need to make it clear they want and need France's military presence, French President Emmanuel Macron said Wednesday, just days after a helicopter collision killed 13 French soldiers fighting Islamic extremists in Mali last week.

France will organize a Dec. 16 summit to discuss the is-

sue with Mali, Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger and Mauritania, countries that contribute to a regional counter-terror force, Macron said.

"Do they want our presence, do they need us? I want clear answers on this," Macron said, adding that such a statement is a condition for keeping French troops there.

After the crash, which marked France's highest military death toll in de-

cadec, Macron called for rethinking the country's involvement, and he called Wednesday for a new "framework and political conditions" for the mission. He said France is not militarily involved in West Africa's arid Sahel region for colonial, imperialist or economic reasons. "We're there for the security of the region, and our own security," he said. The French military operation enjoys broad support in France, which has suffered repeated, deadly attacks by Islamic State extremists. The Islamic State in the Greater Sahara claimed responsibility for the helicopter crash without offering evidence.

The helicopter crash deaths have drawn new attention to a worrying front in the global fight against extremism, one in which France and local countries have pleaded for more support. In a surge of violence in recent weeks, attackers often linked to the Islamic State have killed scores of troops in the Sahel region. □

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NATO downplays divisions as infighting roils alliance

By **LORNE COOK** and **JILL LAWLESS**

Associated Press

WATFORD, England (AP)

— NATO leaders sought Wednesday to paper over differences like the military alliance's future priorities but insisted they would respond as one in the event of an attack on any of the 29 member countries.

Ending a summit just north of London to mark NATO's 70th anniversary, the leaders announced that they would set up a commission of experts to study political decision-making.

That appears to be a direct response to French President Emmanuel Macron's recent lament about the "brain death" of the trans-Atlantic alliance.

"We stand together, all for one and one for all," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg told reporters after chairing the meeting at a luxury hotel and golf resort. "Our commitment to Article 5, the collective defense clause of our alliance, is iron-clad."

Ahead of the summit, Macron had complained about a lack of U.S. leadership. President Donald Trump branded his remarks as "very disrespectful," while Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan suggested that Macron himself was "brain dead."

The infighting is mostly due to Turkey's offensive in northern Syria, which began in October.

Macron has complained that Trump pulled U.S. troops out of the region without warning his NATO allies; a move that Turkey saw as a greenlight to send its troops in.

Countries across the Euro-



Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau arrives for a NATO leaders meeting at The Grove hotel and resort in Watford, Herfordshire, England, Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019.

Associated Press

pean Union are particularly concerned as to what may transpire.

The worry in many EU capitals is that some extremist fighters escaped during Turkey's offensive, and that the fighting could spark a new wave of refugees.

To help ease tensions, leaders agreed to "a forwarding-looking reflection process" to be led by Stoltenberg. Details were sketchy, but the commission, "drawing on relevant expertise," would study ways "to further strengthen NATO's political dimension including consultation."

Germany and France had both put forward similar schemes, although Macron riled many allies with his pre-summit remarks and

NATO officials have pointedly suggested that they were more impressed by Berlin's proposal.

After three summits in consecutive years, the leaders decided that they would take a year off and meet again in 2021.

That means there won't be another one until after the next presidential election in the United States, which is by far NATO's most powerful and influential member country.

Summit host Prime Minister Boris Johnson — also busy with a divisive British election campaign — was upbeat, saying "there was a mood of very great solidarity and determination and a willingness to push NATO forward, not just for the

next few years but for the next 70 years."

There were a few sour notes though.

Erdogan didn't speak to waiting media. Trump arrived via a different entrance, away from media, and said he would leave without holding a news conference.

He also called Prime Minister Justin Trudeau "two-faced" after a video emerged showing the Canadian leader gossiping about Trump.

Macron refused to apologize for his remarks, saying they had ignited a debate at NATO about important strategic issues.

"When there's ice, icebreaker ships are needed. It makes some loud noise,

but it opens the path," he said.

"I consider that the diverging views that my comments may have prompted have been cleared up."

He said NATO "debates should be about other things than budgets and finances."

Stoltenberg noted that European allies and Canada have added \$130 billion to their defense spending since 2016, even as Trump has complained that they are too slow to boost their military budgets.

"This is unprecedented, this is making us stronger," Stoltenberg said of the spending effort.

After Russia annexed the Crimean Peninsula in 2014, NATO countries halted their post-Cold War spending cuts and began to raise spending.

They pledged to "move toward" spending 2% of their annual gross domestic product on national defense by 2024.

Trump said Tuesday that much more needs to be done.

"You could make the case that they've been delinquent for 25-30 years," Trump said. The figure of 2%, he added, "is a very low number, it really should be 4."

Johnson said that on Wednesday "country after country pledged or gave an account of how they were going to meet the pledge of 2%."

Luxembourg Prime Minister Xavier Bettel conceded that "we have experienced easier times. But we're allies after all and we're going to speak about everything." □

Kim again rides horse up sacred peak as N. Korea raps Trump

By **HYUNG-JIN KIM**

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) —

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un rode a white horse up a sacred mountain in his second symbolic visit in less than two months, state media reported Wednesday, as his military chief lashed out at U.S. President Donald Trump for talking about a possible military option against the North.

Mount Paektu and white horses are symbols associated with the Kim family's dynastic rule.

Kim has made previous visits there before making major decisions.

The comments by his military chief are the latest sign that prospects for a resumption of nuclear talks between North Korea and the U.S. are unclear. North Korea has threatened more provocation if the United States fails to meet a year-end deadline set by Kim for it to make a proposal to salvage the negotiations.

On Wednesday night, Pak Jong Chon, chief of the General Staff of the (North) Korean People's Army, issued a statement berating Trump for suggesting that the U.S. could use military force against North Korea if diplomacy fails and warned that any attack would cause a "horrible" consequence for the Americans.

"One thing I would like to make clear is that the use of armed forces is not the



This undated photo provided on Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019, by the North Korean government shows North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, center, with his wife Ri Sol Ju, right, riding on white horse during his visit to Mount Paektu, North Korea.

Associated Press

privilege of the U.S. only," Park said.

He said Kim was also "displeased to hear" about Trump's comments.

Speaking in London where he was attending a NATO summit, Trump on Tuesday said his relationship with Kim was "really good" but also called for him to follow up on a commitment to denuclearize. Trump added, "We have the most powerful military we ever had, and we are by far the most powerful country in the world and hopefully we don't have to use it. But if we do, we will use it."

Trump has previously threatened to bring down "fire

and fury" on North Korea and derided Kim as "little rocket man" when he carried out a series of weapons tests in 2017 aimed at building nuclear-armed missiles capable of reaching the mainland U.S. But his comment Tuesday on the possible use of military force enraged North Korea because he hasn't recently used such threats and instead has bestowed Kim with praise. In September last year, Trump called Kim "very open" and "terrific" and said he and Kim "fell in love."

In London, Trump also said Kim "likes sending rockets up, doesn't he?"

He added that "That's why I call him rocket man."

North Korea didn't immediately respond to Trump's "rocket man" comment. Kim previously called Trump a "mentally deranged U.S. dotard."

Earlier Wednesday, the North's state media released many photos showing Kim riding a horse to snow-covered Mount Paektu along with his wife and other top lieutenants, all on white horses.

Kim last climbed the mountain, the highest peak on the Korean Peninsula, on horseback in mid-October. "The imperialists and class enemies make a more fran-

tic attempt to undermine the ideological, revolutionary and class positions of our party," Kim said in an apparent reference to the U.S. and South Korea. "We should always live and work in the offensive spirit of Paektu."

The nuclear negotiations have remained stalled for months, with North Korea trying to win major sanctions relief and outside security assurances in return for partial denuclearization. Kim and Trump have met three times.

The North's Foreign Ministry warned Tuesday it's entirely up to the United States to choose what "Christmas gift" it gets from the North. North Korean officials have previously said whether North Korea lifts its moratorium on long-range missile and nuclear tests depends on what actions the U.S. takes.

Last week, North Korea test-fired projectiles from what it called a "super-large" multiple rocket launcher that South Korea's military said landed in the waters off the North's east coast.

The North's official Korean Central News Agency said Wednesday the ruling Workers' Party will hold a central committee meeting in late December to discuss unspecified "crucial issues" in line with "the changed situation at home and abroad."

The specific agenda was unclear. □



In this Thursday, Jan. 15, 2009 file photo, village women receive aid from the charity organisation, Oxfam International, at a distribution centre in Chirumhanzi about 250 Kilometers South east of Harare.

Associated Press

By **FARAI MUTSAKA**

Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) —

About half of Zimbabwe's

population faces severe hunger amid a devastating drought and economic collapse, the United Nations

U.N. says half of Zimbabwe's people face severe hunger

said Tuesday, noting a "vicious cycle of skyrocketing malnutrition that's hitting women and children hardest." The World Food Program said it plans to more than double the number of people it helps to more than 4 million. More than 7 million people overall are in need. A U.N. expert on the right to food last week said Zimbabwe is on the brink of man-made starvation and the number of people needing help is "shocking" for a country not in conflict.

With poor rains expected before the harvest in April, the scale of hunger will worsen, the World Food Program's executive director David Beasley said in a statement.

Zimbabwe's crushing economic crisis, the worst in a decade, and a drought across southern Africa will complicate aid delivery as prices for basic items soar and food supplies are lower than normal, the U.N. said. Inflation is "skyrocketing to over 490%," accord-

ing to the U.N. expert, Hilal Elver. That's the second highest rate in the world after Venezuela. Zimbabwe's crisis includes high unemployment, cash and water shortages and electricity outages of up to 19 hours a day.

Elver said she found stunted and underweight children, mothers too hungry to breastfeed their babies and medicine shortages in hospitals during her 10-day visit to the once prosperous country. □



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Iran leader calls for 'Islamic mercy' after bloody crackdown

By JON GAMBRELL
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Iran's supreme leader called Wednesday for those detained in recent gasoline price protests to be treated with "Islamic mercy" even after authorities acknowledged government forces shot and killed demonstrators nationwide in unrest that reportedly killed over 200 people.

The comments by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has final say over all state matters in the Islamic Republic, appear to signal how much the mid-November protests shook the pillars of power in the theocracy.

Amnesty International believes at least 208 people were killed in the protests and security force crackdown that followed. Iran disputes Amnesty's figures but has so far refused to release any nationwide casualty or arrest figures.

The demonstrations show the widespread economic discontent gripping Iran since May 2018, when President Donald Trump imposed crushing sanctions after unilaterally withdrawing the United States from the nuclear deal that Tehran struck with world powers. That decision has seen Iran begin to break limits of the deal, as well as a series of attacks across the Mideast that America has blamed on Tehran.

The state-run IRNA news agency quoted Khamenei as responding to a report on the unrest from the country's Supreme National Security Council.

"The faster these cases are considered, the better and

those who are suspected of being close to any group should be dealt with in a way that is closer to Islamic mercy," Khamenei said, according to IRNA.

Khamenei also said citizens killed in the protests "without playing any part in instigating them" should be considered martyrs and their families should receive government stipends.

Those "killed in shootouts with security forces" also should have their backgrounds examined, he said.

Authorities should "console those families that have never had any criminal backgrounds," IRNA said, paraphrasing Khamenei.

Khamenei's comments soften earlier remarks he made immediately after the protests swept across 100 cities and towns.

Amnesty's death toll of at least 208 makes it the bloodiest unrest in Iran since the time of the Islamic Revolution. The 2009 Green Movement protests that followed a disputed presidential election drew millions to the streets but saw far less killing.

The demonstrations began Nov. 15 after the government raised minimum gasoline prices by 50% to 15,000 Iranian rials per liter. That's 12 cents a liter, or about 50 cents a gallon. After a monthly 60-liter quota, it costs 30,000 rials a liter. That's nearly 24 cents a liter or 90 cents a gallon. An average gallon of regular gas in the U.S. costs \$2.58 by comparison, according to AAA.

Cheap gasoline is practically considered a birthright in Iran, home to the world's



In this Nov. 27, 2019, file photo released by the official website of the office of the Iranian supreme leader, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei waves to members of the Revolutionary Guard's all-volunteer Basij force in a meeting in Tehran, Iran.

Associated Press

fourth-largest crude oil reserves despite decades of

economic woes. That disparity, especially given its

oil wealth, fueled the anger felt by demonstrators. □

Algeria: 2 ex-ministers face groundbreaking corruption trial

By AOMAR OUALI
Associated Press

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Two former Algerian prime ministers went on trial Wednesday on corruption charges, in the most high-profile act of transparency and accountability since a pro-democracy movement pushed out the long-serving president.

The exceptional trial, which is being televised and also involves several other former Algerian power players, comes at a time of renewed political tensions in the oil and gas-rich country, a week ahead of a controversial election to replace President Abdelaziz Bouteflika.

Ahmed Ouyahia, who was forced out as prime minister in March as protests against Bouteflika escalated, and his predecessor Abdelmalek Sellal, testified Wednesday at the Sidi M'Hamed court in Algiers.

Both are charged with

"corruption and the misappropriation of public funds" and both deny any wrongdoing.

Two former industry ministers who served under Bouteflika, influential car industry executives, bankers and other businessmen are also facing charges.

The Dec. 12 presidential election is looming over the trial. Algerians are voting for a new president after Bouteflika, who was in office for two decades, was forced out in April.

The trial was boycotted by defense lawyers, who stayed away because they felt conditions were not met for a fair trial.

Much of the questioning involved a car manufacturing corruption scandal, allegedly involving huge bribes, inflated invoices and dodgy loans.

Algerian authorities are hoping the trial helps convince the public that they are serious about fighting

corruption and reforming themselves — and persuade them to go out and vote next week.

Corruption is a key issue for Algeria's peaceful, 9-month-old protest movement, which considers the election a sham because it's organized by the existing power structure.

Protesters want a whole new political system instead.

"Only the people can judge whether we have the will to combat corruption," Justice Minister Belkacem Zeghmami told lawmakers ahead of the trial, describing the alleged corruption as "going beyond all comprehension."

Bouteflika, whose health condition has remained a mystery since a 2013 stroke, has not been seen in public since he left power. Jeune Afrique magazine reported that he is staying in his home in Zeralda under full-time medical care. □

Bolsonaro vs NGOs: Amazon town becomes ground zero for spat

By **DAVID BILLER** and **DIANE JEANTET**

Associated Press

ALTER DO CHAO, Brazil (AP)

— A sleepy Amazon town has become the flashpoint for the growing hostility between Brazil's far-right President Jair Bolsonaro and environmental groups following the arrest of volunteer firefighters he has said set blazes in the rainforest. The episode prompted leaders of nine non-governmental organizations on Tuesday to denounce the persecution of activists, academics and scientists since the election last year of Bolsonaro, who has accused many of them of working in the Amazon on behalf of foreigners— including actor Leonardo DiCaprio. The groups have been critical of Bolsonaro's push to develop the world's largest tropical rainforest.

"The government regards the third sector, Brazilian civil society, as the enemy of the country," Ricardo Borges, executive coordinator at Pact for Democracy, said on the video call with reporters that also included the Brazilian branches of the World Wildlife Fund and Amnesty International.

Police last month accused several volunteer firefighters of setting forest fires to get funding through local NGOs in Alter do Chao, a town of less than 10,000 people on the bank of the Tapajos river in the state of Para. Federal prosecutors quickly said their investigation found no such evidence, the local police officer leading the investigation was removed from the case and a judge ordered the firefighters be released from prison.

Still, Bolsonaro, a former army captain, publicly backed the police allegations against the firefighters and NGOs. Television footage of police making arrests and raiding NGO offices served, for some, as confirmation of the claims. Bolsonaro even accused DiCaprio of providing the funds to the NGOs - something the U.S. actor denied.



This Aug. 25, 2019 file photo shows charred consumed by a fire in an area in the Alvorada da Amazonia region, in Novo Progresso, Para state, Brazil.

The controversy has cast Alter do Chao, known as "The Caribbean of the Amazon," into the national spotlight.

Speaking at the edge of his verdant yard, Caetano Scannavino, coordinator of Health and Happiness, one of the two nonprofits investigated by local police, told the Associated Press incendiary rhetoric has created a climate of terror, and security consultants have recommended he leave Alter do Chao as soon as possible. Already he's stopped sleeping at home.

"Today we're in a war of narratives. The country is polarized and unfortunately we've created an environment of deconstruction instead of construction, in which people shout at each other and don't debate," Scannavino said. "It's not justifiable to feed more hatred into an environment already polarized with hate."

The same day, on the other side of Alter do Chao, a group of travelling soy farmers spoke to the AP over breakfast at their hotel and expressed the sort of skepticism about NGOs that Bolsonaro shares. One suggested NGOs outnumber farmers in the surrounding region. Another said most of their funding goes

to employee salaries rather than valid projects.

The volunteer firefighters and nonprofits deny any wrongdoing and say the investigation is politically motivated. Para state's government said it won't comment on the probe until the police inquiry is concluded. The press offices of the president and the environment minister didn't reply to requests for comments.

Bolsonaro has accused NGOs of feeding off the "industry of fines" in the country's environmental sector and vowed to no longer allocate fine-related revenue to nonprofits. Environment Minister Ricardo Salles also announced earlier this year he was temporarily suspending funding to NGOs, pending review of contracts and partnerships to catch possible irregularities.

Such targeting hasn't been limited to non-profits.

In the midst of the international outcry over the Amazon fires in August, Bolsonaro accused the then-head of Brazil's space research institute, Ricardo Galvão, of manipulating satellite data on deforestation in order to undermine his administration.

Galvão publicly countered the claims and was fired.

Brazil's annual deforestation

report released last month showed a nearly 30% jump from the prior year. While the government eventually acknowledged logging had increased, the academic community remained shaken by the high-profile dismissal at a scientific institution.

"In the Bolsonaro government, there is a group that has a clearly negative view of science," Galvão said in a phone interview. "They have this idea that all scientists are on the left."

In November, a group of international academics published a research paper in the journal *Global Change Biology*, debunking the Brazilian government's claims that Amazon fires in August were normal. More than one of the paper's authors remained anonymous for fear of reprisal like that Galvão suffered, co-author Erika Berenguer told the AP.

"It was really tough for them to make that decision," she said.

In Alter do Chao, the arrest of the firefighters wasn't the first controversy this year to perturb the town's peaceful vibe. In July, Brazil's education minister was eating in the central plaza with his family when indigenous activists staged a short demonstration be-

side his table. The minister responded by taking a nearby microphone to address the crowd.

"I just want to show the difference between the left and people who aren't on the left," he said. "I'm here with my family on my vacation, one week of the year, three little kids, and you try to humiliate me in front of my kids. Is that it? Is that what you are?"

It quickly escalated into a shouting match, with video of the episode going viral nationwide.

Two days later, a list with names of NGOs, activists and professors from the region allegedly responsible for "the mistreatment of the minister" started circulating in local WhatsApp chat groups, according to a local journalist who writes under the name Hellen Joplin, who also works with local activists. She found herself on the list, described as being anti-Bolsonaro and a "leftist of the worst kind."

"It was a total witch hunt: get them and punish them," Joplin said in an interview.

That night, four police officers drove to her home with red lights flashing as she hosted a meeting of indigenous activists. Terrified attendees hopped Joplin's back fence and hid in the jungle, while officers standing at Joplin's doorway warned her about supposed motorcycle theft in the area and peered into her home, she said at the AP's Rio de Janeiro office. She skipped town with her two toddlers and plans to return only to move her things out permanently.

For now, the volunteer firefighters and nonprofits remain under investigation in Alter do Chao. For Ana Torrellas, who helps run a restaurant in the town's plaza, the process looks like arbitrary persecution.

"Boom, it was their turn, as can happen with me, as can happen with you," said Torrellas, who moved to town from Venezuela two years ago. "I don't need glasses to see the plan. They don't want people who think differently." □

LOCAL



5 o'clock Somewhere Bar & Grill opens Friday!

“Everyone knows Jimmy Buffet’s bars in the States”



The dynamic manager of 5 o'clock Somewhere Bar & Grill, Carlton Ho Sing Loy, can't wait to show the guests why the bar has already earned its stripes in the States. "Everyone knows Jimmy Buffet's bars in the States. He is a singer and producer who owns the Margaritaville chain named after his hit song 'Margaritaville'. You will find this bar in many places, but Aruba has the first stand-alone 5 o'clock Somewhere bar. "Here it is all about fun and entertainment. Big fans of Buffet are called Parrot Heads and for sure we will put them here at the bar. We will play games with our guests like Corn Hole, Plinko and Ring Games to interact and of course prizes are to be won. Regular guests are familiar with the typical Buffet greeting which is the Fins Up. Yes, this is a happy experimental bar." A great choice to do something different for locals, and a must-do for Buffet fans.

Everything at Somewhere

Ho Sing Loy's team is ready to welcome you at their dynamic place where you can expect bottle flipping and other tricks, TV screens showing sports and daily specials like Margarita Mondays, Tito Tuesdays, Wing It Wednesdays. "It is a very different menu in the sense that we have all the original drinks that belong to the Margaritaville brand like the Margarita's Who's To Blame, Uptown Top Shelf, Livin' it up and so on. Beers, wines, boat drinks, smoothies are all part of the offering, for everyone there's something at the 5 o'clock Somewhere Bar. The menu drinks and bites are well-priced inclusive taxes and service charge. Are you craving for some Margaritaville classics? Try the 5 o'clock signature burger or the nachos with tortilla chips that are layered with beef and bean chili, cheese, pico de gallo, jalapeños, guacamole and sour cream. It is a straight, yes. But after all you are in Aruba so you may feel to taste a bit of the island. Another yes as there is the Aruban Cuban, bitterballen or Chicken Keshi Yena. It is up to you! "By the way, we also got the merchandising kiosk selling T-Shirts, caps and so on."

ORANJESTAD — The Renaissance Marketplace has a fabulous Friday as they open their other-state-of-mind 5 o'clock Somewhere Bar & Grill as well as Winter Wonderland. Start your weekend off with a great energy because this will definitely make you happy. Time will be irrelevant while taking in the chill vibes of live music by the popular band HoneyPot and lots of fun, super drinks and scrumptious delights. You simply can't miss it!

Zugheila Lindeborg, Local Marketing Manager: "We planned building a bar for many years already and we found the right match with the brand Margaritaville. It is a different type of bar because of the chill environment combined with lots of fun." Ho Sing Loy agrees to that: "At this bar, you can just be you. It is an easy walk-in bar for everyone. The bar is large and inviting with a DJ every night and every Friday a live band on a small stage. The ambiance will rock and the fun never stops." Raise a glass and take a bite out of paradise!☑



For more information: Facebook / Instagram @5oclocksomewherearuba.



Te Aworo Padu: An Homage to Aruba's Cultural Father

Oranjestad – Last week the Aruban community was stricken with the devastating news that Juan Chabaya Lampe, better known as Padu del Caribe or Aruba's "Tata di Cultura" (cultural father), has passed away at the fascinating age of 99 years old. Today the Aruban community will be paying their last respects at Plaza Padu honoring his legacy, and tomorrow the official religious ceremony and burial will take place at the Protestant Church of Aruba in Oranjestad. In April 2020, Aruba would have celebrated Padu's 100th birthday together with the legacy he has established on the island and the Caribbean region. Padu is a well-known Aruban composer, musician, singer, writer, poet, and painter, an inspiring multifaceted artist. Padu is the mastermind behind the composition of the Aruban hymn, which was first sung in 1986 when Aruba got its Status Aparte within the Dutch Kingdom. Padu was a distinctive cultural pillar and heritage advocate in our community. Therefore, this week local musicians, artists, poets, writers, singers, composers, arrangers, choirs, bands, cultural and creative institutions and foundations, and the entire Aruban community are mourning the loss of their cultural father.

In solemn with the Aruban community, especially the Aruban cultural sector, today's column will be dedicated to our beloved Padu. In our efforts to raise awareness of Aruba's cultural heritage, two very popular compositions of Padu are shared with you. Whenever the name Padu is mentioned, almost everyone automatically thinks about the song "Abo So" and of course Aruba's National Anthem. Interestingly, something very authentic to Padu is his charisma and very passionate choice of words. The song "Abo So" is a very romantic dedication to his now deceased wife, Daisy Lampe – Croes. In the song he expresses his love to her and his desire to share his life with her and ultimately promising to love her till death parts them from each other. Now, when you consider the national anthem of Aruba, it is also a very powerful song expressing love, loyalty, respect, and commitment to his beautiful country, Aruba.

Padu wrote hundreds of songs over the years and received many awards during his lifetime. He was loved locally and internationally for the precious gift he gave to this world, which was sharing his talents and his heart through the arts. The essence of creativity is simply exercising ones talent and believing that it can have a positive impact on society. Padu was a true innovator in his generation, and his legacy with no doubt will live for many generations to come. Like we Arubans say; Te Aworo Padu, te aworo! (Farewell Padu, farewell!)

Abo So – Only You (waltz)
 Cu henter mi alma... cu henter mi bida
 - With all my soul... with all my life
 Ta asina mi sa stima... y ta abo so ma stima
 - That is the way I love... and you are the only one I love
 Bou tur circunstancia... y te na mi morto
 - Under any circumstances... and until I die
 Lo mi sigi stimabo... abo so... abo so
 - I will keep loving you... only you... only you
 Ki dia mi lo tin e honor... di cariciabo cu mi amor
 - When will I have the honor... to caress you with my love
 Y sinti bo dulsura den un sunchi calor



- And feel the sweetness of a warm kiss

Ay mare ta awe nochi mes... Ay mare ta awoki mes
 - Oh wish it would be tonight... Oh wish it would be now
 Mi lo entregabo tur mi curazon.
 - I will give you all my heart

Aruba Dushi Tera – Aruba Precious Country (National Aruban Anthem)
 Aruba patria aprecia
 - Aruba beloved home
 nos cuna venera
 - our venerated cradle
 chikito y simpel bo por ta

-though small and simple you may be
 pero si respeta.

-you are indeed esteemed.

Chorus:
 O, Aruba, dushi tera
 -Oh, Aruba, our dear country
 nos baranca tan stima
 -our rock so well beloved
 nos amor p'abo t'asina grandi
 -our love for you is so strong
 cu n'tin nada pa kibre (bis)
 -that nothing can destroy it. (repeat)

Continued on Page 15

Te Aworo Padu: An Homage to Aruba's Cultural Father

Continued from Page 14

Bo playanan tan admira
 - Your beaches so much admired
 cu palma tur dorna
 - with palm trees all adorned
 bo escudo y bandera ta
 - your coat of arms and flag
 orgullo di nos tur!
 - the symbols of our pride.

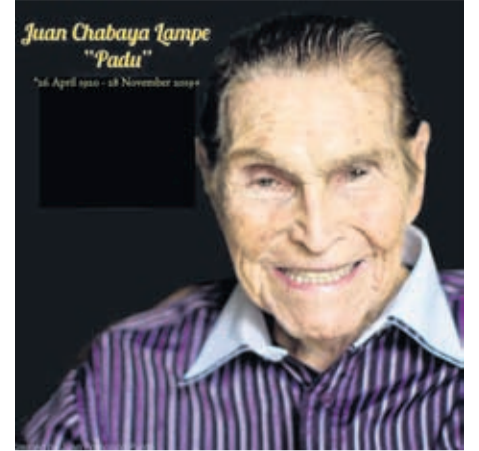
Chorus:
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 -Oh Aruba, our dear country
 nos baranca tan stima
 -our rock so well beloved

nos amor p'abo t'asina grandi
 -our love for you is so strong
 cu n'tin nada pa kibre (bis)
 -that nothing can destroy it. (re-
 peat)

Grandeza di bo pueblo ta
 - The greatness of our people
 su gran cordialidad
 - is their great cordiality
 cu Dios por guia y conserva
 - and may God guide and pre-
 serve
 su amor pa libertad!
 - its love for freedom!

Chorus:
 O, Aruba, dushi tera
 -Oh Aruba, our dear country
 nos baranca tan stima
 -our rock so well beloved
 nos amor p'abo t'asina grandi
 -our love for you is so strong
 cu n'tin nada pa kibre (bis)
 -that nothing can destroy it. (re-
 peat)

The Creative Islander would like to extend its most sincere condolences to the entire Lampe-Croes Family, the Aruban Cultural Sector, and the entire Aruban community



for the immeasurable painful loss of our beloved Padu. Padu, Aruba will forever keep your memory alive in her mind and heart. May Padu's legacy live always! ☐



Biography - Thais G. Franken (24) is a recently graduated Aruban student at the University of Maastricht (UM). She obtained her graduate double master of science degree in Public Policy and Human Development in collaboration with the United Nations University Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT). Back home, on the beautiful island of Aruba, she completed her Bachelor of Arts in Organization, Governance & Management (OGM) at the University of Aruba (UA), where she successfully defended her thesis titled "Placing Culture and Creativity at the Heart of the Aruban Sustainable Development". It was precisely this research project that inspired the emergence of the "Creative Islander" column in 2018. Thais is very passionate about topics such as sustainability, innovation, culture, creativity, social entrepreneurship and their role in public management. Next to her academic interests, she enjoys reading, writing, dancing and cooking.

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The Kitchen Table enters fifth year of gastronomic success on NEW location: A very fine culinary journey of Caribbean and Peruvian fusion cuisine



EAGLE BEACH — The Kitchen Table is an elegant, classy, intimate, high-quality restaurant with an exceptional dining set-up. Dining here is an experience, a kind of sitting- at your- best- friend's or family's kitchen table where you feel and taste that the food contains love. Are you looking for something different, an ecstatic foody trip, than this is where you need to go.

The 7-8 course gastronomic journey will start with sparkling wine at the patio of The Kitchen Table's new location at Paradise Beach Villas as of 6.45PM. Around 7.00PM guests will be guided for a memorable dinner on the second floor of the other popular restaurant Asi es mi Peru. The dining concept reflects extraordinary, elegant and exquisite dishes from the Caribbean, Peruvian fusion and international cuisine created by the owners, Chef David Lizano and his team. To pair the perfect wines three sommeliers were invited to make the section.

The interior of the restaurant is if you were in an elegant establishment in Lima, the capital city of Peru. You feel elevated in the top of the building where dinner takes place in an intimate setting. The typical, colorful Peruvian fabrics dress the ceiling while the large windows dignify the room. There are only 16 seats available creating an intimacy underlined by the owner's personal attention. "This is an amazing experience," says Robert J. Giordanella from New York. "The food is truly divine," shares a local guest. An evening at The Kitchen Table will be noted as unforgettable in your book of vacation memories, as it stands out from the regular island dinners.

It is all about consistency

The Peruvian-born Roxanna Salinas and her husband Jan van Nes are the secret formula behind The Kitchen Table's success. The couple takes a personal approach to what they do, this is not about running a business as usual. This is more about making you feel welcomed home, as well as being pampered. They bring top hospitality, experience and authenticity to the table. Within this gourmet dinner concept the two blended the Peruvian culinary art of Roxanna's top kitchen team and Jan's expertise from The Kitchen Table. The result is one big trip of delight, indulge and tickling of your taste buds. The Kitchen Table welcomes you with open arms every Tuesday to Saturday.

The Kitchen Table is open from Tuesday to Saturday. Have a peak on their website www.thekithcentableinaruba.com or call them at +297-5932173.



Peruvian touch

In the last ten years, Peru has been recognized as one of the world's best culinary destinations, and for seven consecutive years, the South American country has won the award for the Best Culinary destination at the Worlds Travel Awards. Biodiversity combined multiculturalism are the reasons why Peru is so rich in gastronomy. You can travel through the last 500 years, touch a mix of cultures whenever you taste authentic Peruvian cuisine. The Kitchen Table brings this epicurean delicacies to Aruba paired perfectly with the best wines and they will make you understand why Peru is at the height of today's gastronomy. □



Aruba to Me

ORANJESTAD – Aruba Today likes to welcome readers to participate in our newspaper. You can see that in our Honored Guest-publications, specials like on Valentine's Day and on other occasions. Throughout the year you are always welcome to send us your vacation picture(s) together with completing the sentence: Aruba to me is (Email: news@arubatoday.com)

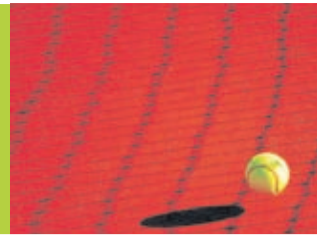
For today's newspaper we received a great picture from **Elaine Dellorfano of the Boston Gang**. They wrote:

Aruba to us is.... FRIENDSHIP and HAPPY TIMES!

Bill Belliveau, Brian, Tay Lagrasse, Elaine, Christine, Stacy, Lainie, Lauren and Matt Brammer love spending Thanksgiving in Aruba. They love Aruba so much that they gladly show it thru their matching Aruban Flag Swimsuits!! □



SPORTS



In this March 3, 2001, file photo, Christy Martin looks toward her corner following her unanimous 10-round decision over Jeanne "Boom Boom" Martinez, in Las Vegas. Martin was elected to the International Boxing Hall of Fame, Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019. This was the first year that women were on the ballot.

Associated Press

CHRISTY MARTIN AND BERNARD HOPKINS HEADLINE BOXING HOF CLASS

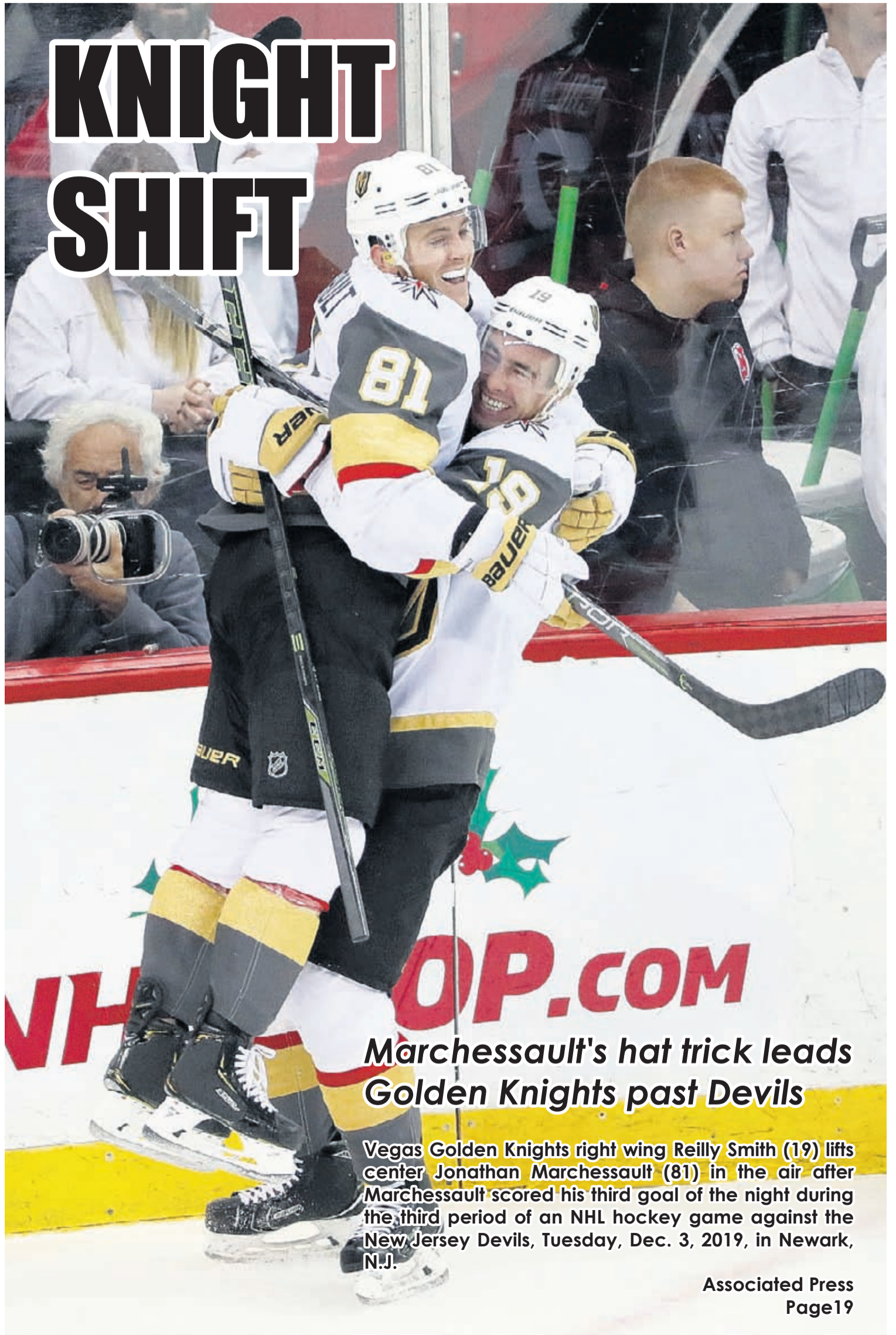
CANASTOTA, N.Y. (AP) — Middleweight champion Bernard Hopkins, four-division champion Juan Manuel Marquez of Mexico, three-division champ Shane Mosley and women's star Christy Martin have been elected to the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

Buttrick was elected in the Trailblazers category, while Martin and Rijker were elected in the Modern category.

Also elected by members of the Boxing Writers Association and a panel of international boxing historians were promoters Lou DiBella and Kathy Duva in the Non-Participant category and journalists Bernard Fernandez and Thomas Hauser in the Observer category.

Continued on Page 20

KNIGHT SHIFT



Marchessault's hat trick leads Golden Knights past Devils

Vegas Golden Knights right wing Reilly Smith (19) lifts center Jonathan Marchessault (81) in the air after Marchessault scored his third goal of the night during the third period of an NHL hockey game against the New Jersey Devils, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2019, in Newark, N.J.

Associated Press
Page 19

Olympic champion Biles to headline post-Olympic tour



In this Oct. 13, 2019, file photo, Gold medalist Simone Biles of the United States performs on the floor in the women's apparatus finals at the Gymnastics World Championships in Stuttgart, Germany.

By **WILL GRAVES**
AP Sports Writer

Simone Biles wants to bring gymnastics to the masses and plans to bring some of her friends along for the ride.

The Olympic and world champion is headlining a tour in the fall of 2020 that will be a mixture of sports and entertainment intended to inspire the next generation of female athletes. The "Gold Over America" tour will visit more than 35 cities, including Biles' hometown of Houston as well as New York, Los Angeles and Chicago.

The idea originated when Biles was in the early stages of her return to gymnastics in the fall of 2017 after taking a year off following her memorable performance at the 2016 Olympics, where she won four gold medals and five in all, becoming the face of her sport.

"When we found out I was coming back, we kind of sat down and talked about things I would want to do," Biles told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

"They said it could be as small as starting a perfume line or maybe as big as a tour. I was like, 'Actually, that would be pretty sweet. That would be the coolest thing ever.'"

The women-only roster will reunite Biles with long-time friend Katelyn Ohashi. Ohashi and Biles competed against each other growing up. Like Biles, Ohashi — the 2012 junior national champion — had designs on competing at the Olympics before injuries sidetracked her elite career. She instead attended UCLA, helping the Bruins win the national title in 2018 and becoming a viral sensation last winter with her Michael Jackson-themed floor routine.

"She made her mark," Biles said.

"She put college gymnastics and gymnastics ... back on the map. She has impacted a lot of female gymnasts and I think this really brings us full circle."

The tour will also finally allow Biles to join forces with former UCLA coach Val Kondos Field.

Biles verbally committed to compete for the Bruins before turning professional in 2015.

Kondos Field, who retired last spring, will serve as executive producer and supervising choreographer for the tour.

Biles said the goal is to bring the sport closer to the audience and also to loosen things up a bit. The plan is to utilize giant video screens, pyrotechnics and an in-house DJ.

"We want this to be completely different," Biles said. "There will be dancing. Hopefully trampoline. Something people have never seen before."

Biles captured five gold medals at the 2019 world championships to boost her career total to 25 medals overall, a record for both men and women. She is widely considered the greatest gymnast of all time and her face has been at the forefront of

television promos for the 2020 Olympics, where she will try to become the first woman in more than 50 years to repeat as gymnastics champion.

While there are times she admits she's still processing her fame, she's starting to understand her influence on the sport.

It's one of the reasons she agreed to headline the tour.

"In a way, it's scary," Biles said.

"But at this point I also feel like it's really exciting to have a platform that I do and to be able to do some of the things that I've been blessed with.

I think it's a combination of both. So I don't know. We went back and forth on if we wanted my name in it, but you never know. I think it'll be OK."

USA Gymnastics typically coordinates a post-Olympic tour of its own, though there are no plans for one

in 2020.

The organization remains in bankruptcy court as it tries to reach a resolution with athletes who were sexually abused by former national team doctor Larry Nassar, who abused gymnasts — Biles included — under the guise of treatment.

Biles said she hasn't spoken to anyone at USA Gymnastics directly about her tour but added, "I know they're aware about it and they've been pretty supportive."

"Simone is an amazing athlete and person, and having her own tour will give her a stage to showcase her skills and talent, as well as those of other women," USA Gymnastics said in a statement.

Just how many athletes will join Biles and Ohashi remains uncertain.

"We're looking at the top of the line and the best gymnasts from elite and maybe we did think from around the world, but that gets really, really difficult just because of the visas and all of that stuff," Biles said.

"Right now in the circle I know a couple of college gymnasts and then elite gymnasts (who will be on the tour), like world class."

Biles is in the midst of a recovery period following her record-breaking performance at the world championships.

She said she anticipates returning to competition in April before the US Championships, the Olympic Trials and then the Olympics next summer.

Then it's likely off to retirement and a chance to make an impact far beyond the competition floor, a process that will start with the tour, where she will have her hand in selecting the group and helping put the show together.

"I feel like everyone's creative vision coming together is very unique," she said. "And so I think once we get together and we have a set plan on what we'll do, it'll be very exciting." □

Associated Press



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Marchessault's hat trick leads Golden Knights past Devils

By The Associated Press
NEWARK, N.J. (AP) —

Jonathan Marchessault scored three straight goals in the third period to rally the Vegas Golden Knights over New Jersey 4-3 Tuesday night, hours after the Devils fired coach John Hynes.

Marchessault scored twice in the first 5:04 of the third to give the Golden Knights a 3-2 lead. He added a power-play goal midway through the period, and Vegas held on even after New Jersey's Nico Hischier scored 20 seconds later.

The Golden Knights have won four straight to improve to 15-11-4.

Malcolm Subban had 32 saves, and Chandler Stephenson scored in his first game since being acquired Monday from the Washington Capitals.

Mackenzie Blackwood stopped 26 shots for the Devils.

Kyle Palmieri and Jesper Bratt also scored.

Hynes was fired Tuesday after a 9-13-4 start that left the team in last place in the Metropolitan Division and with the NHL's second worst record.

FLYERS 6, MAPLE LEAFS 1
PHILADELPHIA

(AP) Claude Giroux scored the go-ahead goal midway through the third period and Philadelphia had three goals in the final 2:06 to get their fifth straight win.

Travis Konecny had a goal and an assist for Philadelphia, which has earned points in seven straight games (6-0-1).

The Flyers had an NHL-best 24 points in November, going 10-2-4 to tie a franchise record for most points in a month.

Carter Hart finished with 27 saves.

Scott Laughton, Joel Farabee, Shayne Gostisbehere and James van Riemsdyk also scored.

Travis Dermott scored for Toronto, which lost for just the second time in six games since Sheldon Keefe replaced the fired Mike Babcock as head coach on Nov. 20.

CANADIENS 4, ISLANDERS 2

MONTREAL (AP) Phillip Danault, Brendan Gallagher and Shea Weber

BRUINS 2, HURRICANES 0

BOSTON (AP) — Charlie Coyle scored late in the third period, Jaroslav Halak stopped 24 shots for

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)

Darcy Kuemper stopped 33 shots and Arizona beat Columbus behind goals by Clayton Keller, Chris-

straight start.

CAPITALS 5, SHARKS 2

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) John Carlson had a goal and two assists in the opening period to reach 40 points for the season, Nick Hathaway and Jakub Vrana each scored twice and Washington beat San Jose.

Carlson had a hand in all three Washington goals during a span of 3:01 in the first period that put the Capitals in control in the opener of their three-game California swing.

He assisted on the first goal of the game for both Hathaway and Vrana and then scored his own, giving him nine goals and 31 assists through 29 games this season.

Carlson joined Bobby Orr and Al MacInnis as the only defensemen in the expansion era to reach 40 points in the first 30 games of a season.

Braden Holtby made 23 saves for Washington.

Melker Karlsson and Evander Kane scored for San Jose.

Martin Jones allowed five goals on 22 shots before being replaced by Aaron Dell after two periods.

San Jose lost for just the third time in 14 games.

CANUCKS 5, SENATORS 2

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Antoine Roussel scored in his first game back after being sidelined for eight months with an injury, and Vancouver beat Ottawa.

Zack MacEwen got his first NHL goal, and Tanner Pearson, Elias Pettersson and Oscar Fantenberg also scored for Vancouver, which won for just the fifth time in 15 games (5-8-2).

Chris Tanev and Adam Gaudette each had two assists and Thatcher Demko stopped 40 shots.

Jean-Gabriel Pageau and Tyler Ennis scored for the Senators, who lost their fifth straight.

Anders Nilsson gave up four goals on 15 shots in the first period, and Marcus Hogberg finished with 13 saves the rest of the way. □



Vegas Golden Knights center Jonathan Marchessault (81) reacts as his shot slips behind New Jersey Devils goaltender Mackenzie Blackwood (29) for the first of his three goals during the third period of an NHL hockey game, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2019, in Newark, N.J. The Golden Knights defeated the Devils 4-3. Devils left wing Jesper Bratt (63) watches as Devils defenseman Damon Severson (28) skates behind Marchessault.

Associated Press

each had a goal and an assist, and Montreal beat New York to snap an eight-game losing streak.

Jeff Petry also scored and Carey Price stopped 21 shots to earn his 11th win of the season for Montreal, which ended an 0-5-3 skid. Scott Mayfield and Matthew Barzal scored in the third period for the Islanders, and Thomas Greiss finished with 36 saves.

LIGHTNING 3, PREDATORS 2, OT

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) Nikita Kucherov scored at 2:35 of overtime to give Tampa Bay a victory over Nashville.

Victor Hedman and Ondrej Palat also scored and Andrei Vasilevskiy stopped 30 shots as the Lightning snapped a three-game skid.

Calle Jarnkrok and Kyle Turris had the goals for Nashville, which has lost three of its last four.

Pekka Rinne finished with 28 saves.

his second shutout of the season, and Boston beat Carolina for its eighth straight win.

David Krejci also scored for Boston, just 1:08 after Coyle got the Bruins on the scoreboard.

James Reimer finished with 32 saves for the Hurricanes.

JETS 5, STARS 1

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP) Kyle Connor had a goal and two assists, and Winnipeg handed Dallas its fourth straight loss.

Nikolaj Ehlers, Josh Morrissey, Patrik Laine and Mark Scheifele each had a goal and assist for Winnipeg, which is 4-1-0 in its past five games. Connor Hellebuyck made 27 saves.

Miro Heiskanen scored for the Stars, who are 0-3-1 since ending a seven-game winning streak.

Anton Khudobin stopped 25 shots.

COYOTES 4, BLUE JACKETS 2

tian Fischer and Lawson Crouse.

Carl Soderberg had an empty-net goal and assisted on two of the earlier goals.

Dean Kukan and Alexandre Texier scored and Joonas Korpisalo had 24 saves for the Blue Jackets

WILD 4, PANTHERS 2

SUNRISE, Fla. (AP) Carson Soucy scored the go-ahead goal early in the third period to lift Minnesota over Florida.

Luke Kunin, Mats Zuccarello and Jason Zucker also scored as the Wild won their fourth straight game and earned a point for the 10th straight game (7-0-3).

Kaapo Kahkonen stopped 44 shots in his second NHL start.

Aleksander Barkov and Jonathan Huberdeau scored for the Panthers, who have lost four of their past five games.

Chris Driedger made 22 saves in his second

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Oranjestad- Renaissance Marina Downtown is home to the Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood. Herby senior and Herby Junior both share a passion and love for fishing. They know what the local waters have to offer and what fresh fish really means. Over 30 years ago, the idea for the fishing charter was born.



Boxing HOF

Continued from Page 17

Posthumous honorees include lightweight champion Frank Erne in the Old Timer category, Paddy Ryan in the Pioneer category and promoter Dan Goossen in the Non-Participant category. Nicknamed "The Coal Miner's Daughter," Martin, a native of West Virginia, began boxing on a dare in 1986 while still in college, entering and winning a "tough woman" contest. Although she graduated with honors from Concord College, Martin elected to pursue the sweet science and turned pro in 1989 while working as a substitute teacher in Tennessee. Martin brought women's boxing to the mainstream in the mid-1990s, becoming the first woman to sign a promotional contract with promoter Don King and landing on the cover of Sports Illustrated. She

won the WBC super welterweight championship in 2009 and compiled a 49-7-3 record with 31 KOs in her career. "I just wanted to be a fighter and fit into the world of boxing and this is a dream come true," Martin said. "I'm always excited to come back to Canastota, but to come back this year will be very special." Hopkins holds the record for the most successful title defenses in middleweight boxing history at 20. He'll join former middleweight champions Carlos Monzon, who successfully defended 14 times, and Marvellous Marvin Hagler, who defended 12 times, as a Hall of Famer on induction Sunday next June 14. "I'm glad I'm entering the house of greatness past and present," Hopkins said. "Thanks to boxing, I became a greater inspiration to the world." Mosley, known for his quick



In this May 21, 2011, file photo, Bernard Hopkins celebrates after defeating Jean Pascal with a unanimous decision to win a WBC light heavyweight world title fight, in Montreal.

Associated Press

hand speed, beat Oscar De La Hoya twice during a pro career that produced a record of 49-10-1 with 41 KOs. "I'm so happy and honored," Mosley said. "I've worked my whole life for this. Even when I started as a kid at 8 years old I knew this is what I wanted to do and what I wanted to be. I have accomplished my goals to be one of the

greats and go into the Hall of Fame, so this is a great honor." Buttrick, who began boxing in her native England, came to United States in the 1950s to box legally and won a world championship while breaking down barriers. "This is wonderful news. It means a lot to me," Buttrick said. "After I started out

with everybody against me back in the 1940s, it is nice to be recognized." Rijker, the first licensed female boxer in her home country, was nicknamed "The Dutch Destroyer" and certainly lived up to the moniker. She made her pro debut in 1996, signed a promotional contract with Bob Arum's Top Rank and won all 17 of her professional fights with 14 knockouts. For Rijker, selection was an emotional moment. "This is very moving," she said. "As I entered normal life after boxing there is a memory of boxing that is in my heart and soul. There is really a strong connection I have to that era and I am really honored to be reminded of that time because sometimes there is a time in your life where everything comes together — mind, body and spirit — and definitely my boxing career aligned all three of them to be the best I could be on all levels. I'm very grateful for that and grateful to be recognized." □

Butler, Heat win in OT to hand Raptors first home loss

By The Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Jimmy Butler had 22 points, 13 rebounds and 12 assists, Duncan Robinson scored 22 points and the Miami Heat spoiled Kyle Lowry's return to Toronto's lineup by beating the Raptors 121-110 in overtime Tuesday.

Butler scored eight consecutive points in 55 seconds to begin the extra session as the Heat recovered after blowing a seven-point lead in the final two minutes of the fourth quarter. Bam Adebayo scored 18 points, Justise Winslow had 17 and Kelly Olynyk 16 as the Heat snapped the Raptors' season-high winning streak at seven games, and became the first visitor to win north of the border this season.

Pascal Siakam had 15 points and 12 rebounds, Norman Powell scored 23 points and Fred VanVleet had 19 for Toronto, which had won a franchise-record nine straight home games to begin the season.

The Raptors missed all nine of their field goal attempts in overtime.

SPURS 135, ROCKETS 133, 2 OT

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Lonnie Walker IV had a career-high 28 points and San Antonio overcame James Harden's 50 points by rallying from a late 10-point deficit to beat Houston.

DeMar DeRozan added 23 points, nine assists and five rebounds as the Spurs won their second straight at home and snapped the Rockets' two-game winning streak.

Harden played a season-high 49 minutes coming off a 60-point outing Saturday over three quarters against Atlanta. He was whistled for two charges in the second overtime. The second came against DeRozan with 0.8 seconds remaining, sealing San Antonio's victory.

LAKERS 105, NUGGETS 96

DENVER (AP) — LeBron James had 25 points, nine assists and a crucial dunk off a miss late in the fourth quarter to lead Los Angeles over Denver.



Miami Heat forward Jimmy Butler (22) drives past Toronto Raptors guard Norman Powell during the second half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2019, in Toronto.

Associated Press

Anthony Davis shook off flu-like symptoms to score 25 points and add 10 rebounds for the Lakers.

Both teams were coming off losses that ended long winning streaks, but it was Los Angeles that bounced back behind James and Davis.

Davis missed the morning film session and his status for the game was questionable until before tip. He showed no effects of illness, scoring 13 points in the third while shooting 5 of 7 in the period.

Jamal Murray scored 22 points and Paul Millsap had 21 points and eight rebounds. Nikola Jokic was held to 13 points but add-

ed eight assists.

CLIPPERS 117, TRAIL BLAZERS 97

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Montrezl Harrell scored 26 points, Paul George added 25 and Los Angeles pulled away in the second half to beat Portland.

Kawhi Leonard added 11 points in helping extend the Clippers' franchise-best start at home to 13-1.

The game was tied 10 times in the first half before the Clippers eked out a 62-59 lead at halftime.

George and Leonard took over to start the third. They each hit 3-pointers and George had a steal and a dunk to go with a free throw from Leonard as part

of a 14-3 run that gave the Clippers a 76-62 lead.

CJ McCollum scored 20 points, Hassan Whiteside had 18 points and 13 rebounds, and Damian Lillard added 16 points on 5-of-15 shooting for the Blazers, whose three-game winning streak ended. Carmelo Anthony had nine points and six rebounds.

MAVERICKS 118, PELICANS 97

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Luka Doncic scored 15 of his 33 points in the third quarter and grabbed 18 rebounds in just 28 minutes to power Dallas over New Orleans.

Doncic shot 9 of 18 from the field, making five 3-pointers, and hit 10 of 13 free

throws to lead the Mavericks to their eighth victory in the last nine games.

Doncic had 12 points the first quarter and then broke open a three-point game by scoring 15 of the Mavericks' 25 points in the final 9:18 of the third, when Dallas built a 84-75 lead. Two of Doncic's jumpers came from at least 25 feet with no defender in his face.

Dallas led by as many as 18 points in the fourth quarter and coasted home.

Seth Curry added 19 points off the bench for the Mavericks, and Tim Hardaway Jr. and Maxi Kleber each had 12.

Brandon Ingram scored 24 points and Jrue Holiday had 18 for New Orleans, which lost its sixth consecutive game.

MAGIC 127, WIZARDS 120

WASHINGTON (AP) — Evan Fournier scored 31 points, D.J. Augustin added 16 of his 24 in the fourth quarter and Orlando beat Washington.

Bradley Beal scored 42 points for the Wizards, who have lost five of six.

Markelle Fultz added a career-high 20 points for the Magic, who have won three of four after earning just their second road victory of the season.

Davis Bertans added 21 points and Isaiah Thomas scored 20 for Washington. The Wizards were without starting center Thomas Bryant, who was diagnosed with a stress reaction in his right foot Tuesday and will be re-evaluated in three weeks. □

Yankees to meet with Gerrit Cole, Stephen Strasburg next

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Gerrit Cole, the top pitcher on the free-agent market, was set to meet with New York Yankees officials in California on Tuesday.

General manager Brian Cashman, manager Aaron Boone and new Yankees pitching coach Matt Blake made the trip to speak with the 29-year-old right-hander, a person familiar with the planning said. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the meeting was not an-

nounced. New York is expected to meet Wednesday with free-agent right-hander Stephen Strasburg, the person said. Strasburg and Cole both are represented by Scott Boras. New York selected Cole with the 28th overall pick of the 2008 amateur draft, but he decided not to sign and attended UCLA instead. Pittsburgh took him with the first overall pick in 2011 and agreed to an \$8 million signing bonus.

Cole was 20-5 with an AL-best 2.50 ERA and a big league-high 326 strikeouts this year for the AL champion Houston Astros, who acquired



In this Oct. 27, 2019, file photo, Houston Astros starting pitcher Gerrit Cole throws against the Washington Nationals during the first inning of Game 5 of the baseball World Series in Washington.

Associated Press

him from the Pirates before the 2018 season. He is 94-52 with a 3.22 ERA in seven big league seasons. □



Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson (8) looks downfield to pass the ball against San Francisco 49ers in the first half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019, in Baltimore, Md.

Associated Press

Surging Ravens are unanimous top team in AP Pro32 poll

By **SIMMI BUTTAR**
AP Pro Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Lamar Jackson and the surging Baltimore Ravens passed their latest test.

The Ravens beat the San Francisco 49ers 20-17 Sunday on Justin Tucker's field goal as time expired for their eighth consecutive victory.

The Ravens, one of five teams with a 10-2 record, are the unanimous choice as the top team in the latest AP Pro32 poll.

The Ravens earned all 12 first-place votes for 384 points in balloting Tuesday by media members who regularly cover the NFL.

"In a potential Super Bowl preview, the Ravens won a slugfest over the 49ers, showing they're equally adept at grinding it out against elite teams as they are at dominating weaker opponents," said Newsday's Bob Glauber.

Despite the loss, the 49ers remained third in the poll.

"Even in defeat, the 49ers showed every indication they are capable of representing the NFC in the Super Bowl," said Ira Kaufman of Fox 13 in Tampa, Florida.

The Seattle Seahawks climbed two spots to No. 2 after a 37-30 win on Monday night over the Minnesota Vikings, who dropped four spots to No. 10.

The New Orleans Saints remained at No. 4 after topping the Atlanta Falcons 26-18 on Thanksgiving and will host the 49ers on Sunday in one of the top matchups of Week 14.

"Just believe their defense is a tad better than the Saints," Fox Sports' John Czarnecki said of the 49ers.

Tom Brady and the New England Patriots dropped three places to No. 5 after their 28-22 loss Sunday night at AFC South-leading Houston, which jumped two places to No. 8.

"Anyone who says the Patriots are done doesn't know anything about anything," Charean Williams of Pro Football Talk said of the defending Super Bowl champs.

The Green Bay Packers and Kansas City Chiefs, both coming off dominant wins, are tied at No. 6.

The Buffalo Bills remained at No. 9 after topping the Dallas Cowboys on Thanksgiving and get to face another first-place team as they host the Ravens on Sunday. □



In this Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019, file photo, Carolina Panthers head coach Ron Rivera leaves the field following an NFL football game against the Washington Redskins in Charlotte, N.C.

Associated Press

Panthers owner leaning toward offensive-minded head coach

By **STEVE REED**
AP Sports Writer
CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)

— Panthers owner David Tepper has hinted that Carolina's next head coach will be someone with an offensive background.

"In the modern NFL, I think there is a preference for offensive coordinators (and) I think there are reasons for that," Tepper said late Tuesday. "That does not mean that if you find somebody fantastic on the defensive side, I won't consider it. If he has old-school discipline and modern and innovative processes."

Tepper fired longtime coach Ron Rivera on Tuesday after four straight losses left the Panthers (5-7) out of serious playoff contention for the third time in four seasons.

Rivera said Wednesday that he doesn't believe his coaching career is over.

In his final news conference at Bank of America Stadium Rivera said he will take the next four weeks off but is eager to coach again next season.

"I do believe I will get another opportunity, and I will coach again," Rivera said. The 57-year-old Rivera opened his news

conference by adamantly defending his accomplishments in his nine seasons in Carolina. He took over a 2-14 team, won three straight NFC South titles and led the Panthers to the Super Bowl.

He leaves with a 73-61-1 record, more wins than any Panthers coach.

But Rivera was a coach with a defensive background, and Tepper said the NFL has implemented rules that favor the offense. The owner said that benefits teams with a head coach that has an offensive background.

"That's why you're having more people go that way," said Tepper, who bought the Panthers in 2018 and did not hire Rivera, who was already in place. "I think you have a lot of people on that side accepting the more modern processes."

Tepper has spoken repeatedly about his distaste for the "long-term mediocrity" that has plagued the organization.

Rivera said he believes the team's struggles the past two seasons are directly tied to quarterback Cam Newton's injuries. Newton struggled through shoulder problems in the second half of last season and

played only two games this season because of a foot issue which may require surgery.

"The biggest thing that contributed to our long-term mediocrity the last two seasons is that we didn't have our quarterback situation settled," Rivera said. "... Our problems didn't start until when? Until our quarterback got hurt."

Rivera said he was surprised Tepper fired him with four games left in the season. Tepper said he'll form an in-house committee to lead the coaching search, which will commence immediately.

It does not appear he's in the market for a college head coach, talking about how difficult the transition to the NFL level can be. He also said he wants a coach who will try new things, but if they don't work is willing to acknowledge the mistake and fix the problem.

"You want to be successful? I don't care what you do, admit when you do things wrong," Tepper said. "Fix what you do and keep doing the things you do right. It's not that hard. What's hard is for people to admit that they've made a mistake." □

AP Interview: Joshua out to regain aura, belts in rematch

By **STEVE DOUGLAS**
AP Sports Writer

Anthony Joshua didn't just lose three world heavyweight titles and an undefeated record when he was beaten by Andy Ruiz Jr. in one of boxing's biggest upsets in a generation.

He lost his aura, his growing sense of invincibility.

So Joshua has had to reinvent himself, strip everything back and, in a sense, start all over.

That began by going back to his roots in Nigeria.

"Because of boxing, I've never had time to go there," Joshua told The Associated Press of his first return in 17 years to the homeland of his parents and where he briefly went to boarding school at the age of 11. "In Nigeria, the people love you for you, not for what you have."

At the lowest point of his professional career and with people starting to question him for the first time, Joshua needed time to reflect and to have a dose of reality. He visited Makoko, a slum just off mainland Lagos that is largely a floating community of wooden homes on swampland.

Joshua is adored there, and they mobbed their icon.

"It was good to see hope," Joshua recalled. "Anyone that can bring hope to you, they appreciate it and they appreciate my journey so far. That's what I liked. We're on a journey." Joshua's journey took an unexpected detour with that loss to Ruiz Jr. in June. But it may well be the making of him.

The Briton heads into the rematch in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on Saturday as something of a changed man. More humble, more accepting of vicissitudes of his sport, and eager to learn from his mistakes.

Joshua accepts there were plenty of them before the first fight in Madison Square Garden. He still won't say exactly what went wrong that night in New York, but he acknowledges he "wasn't prepared" for the

challenge of Ruiz Jr. — a portly Mexican with a big heart, fast hands and unexpected power. Ruiz Jr.,

and his mentality. "Last time when I lost, I understood why," Joshua told the AP in a phone interview after ar-

done that." Time will tell, but there's a sense Joshua is more comfortable in Saudi Arabia than he was in

from my memory and I'm approaching it like I'm fighting for the heavyweight championship of the world, which I am. I'm not looking at it as a rematch," Joshua said.

"Even though I've had a belt around my waist, I've always had that challenger mindset because even in my 15th fight, I challenged for the British title. The 16th (was for the) world title, defend, defend, challenge again, so it's part and parcel of the game now. I'm used to the tough challenges."

Another loss to Ruiz Jr. — in a fight with a reported \$70 million purse and being televised by the DAZN streaming service — and there would be serious questions about Joshua, one of Britain's most celebrated sportsmen and someone whose career trajectory was only heading one way until last summer. Fights with the likes of Deontay Wilder and Tyson Fury would be further away then ever.

But he's not thinking that way. He's embracing taking boxing to a new audience, shrugging off the fact that the fight will take place in a kingdom where there are human-rights concerns, and is desperate to regain his IBF, WBA and WBO belts.

"Of course people doubt me," Joshua said. "But the main thing is I'm still here. I'm not discouraged. That's all I can say." □



In this Saturday, June 1, 2019 file photo, Britain's Anthony Joshua reacts as the referee counts for him after he was knocked down during the seventh round of a heavyweight title boxing match against Mexican American boxer Andy Ruiz, in New York.

Associated Press

who stood in as a late replacement after Jarrell Miller failed multiple doping tests, knocked down Joshua four times before the fight was stopped in the seventh round, the defeated champion somewhat dazed and disheveled.

Joshua has ignored some calls to dispense with his long-time trainer, Rob McCracken — the pair go way back, to before Joshua won an Olympic gold medal at the 2012 London Games — but has changed his sparring partners, his routines,

living in Riyadh. "I took it like a man, I'd say. I took it like a champion should. Because I understood my mistakes. And I've changed them, I've rectified them.

"If anything wasn't to go my way this time, I just have to say the man is better than me. He is a tricky customer but I think I'm a better fighter than him, even though I didn't get the decision last time. I went straight back in. I didn't say, 'Ah, I need a warm-up fight.' I knew where I went wrong. I know how to improve it, and I've

the bright lights of New York five months ago, when he was making his U.S. debut and, maybe, took his eye off the ball.

While retaining that chiseled physique that could not contrast more with Ruiz Jr.'s, Joshua looked slimmer and lighter during his public workouts in Riyadh this week.

And because he is having to prove himself all over again, Joshua said he compares this fight with the first of the 23 in his pro career. "I have erased the old fight

Aliu expects "big change" after meeting with Bettman

TORONTO (AP) — Former NHL forward Akim Aliu expects "big change" in hockey after a meeting with top league executives Tuesday.

Aliu met with NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman and deputy commissioner Bill Daly in Toronto to discuss his allegation that former Calgary Flames coach Bill Peters used a racial slur several times during the 2009-10 season while the two were with the Chicago Blackhawks' top minor league affiliate in Rockford, Illinois.

The Flames investigated Aliu's claim, and Peters resigned last Friday. Peters apologized to the Flames and general manager Brad Treliving for using "offensive language" in Rockford.

The NHL has said it is continuing to review the matter. "It's been a tough week," the Nigeria-born Aliu said. "We had some great discussion with Gary and Bill, who couldn't have been kinder and (more) receptive to the

message we're trying to bring.

"I think there's some big change coming, and it's long overdue. I'm excited to see it come to fruition." Bettman and Daly put out a joint statement after the meeting with Aliu.

"We are pleased to have met with Akim Aliu today and had a productive and candid conversation," the statement said. "Today's discussion is part of a broader, thorough review and process that the league is undertaking. We share a mutual objective: ensuring that hockey is an open and inclusive sport at all levels."

The league said it will have no further comment until after the NHL's Board of Governors meeting next week in Pebble Beach, California.

Following Aliu's allegations, others claimed Peters kicked and punched players behind the bench during his recent time with the Carolina Hurricanes. □

Workers fired from Google plan federal labor complaint

By **RACHEL LERMAN**
AP Technology Writer
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Four workers fired from Google last week are planning to file a federal labor complaint against the company, claiming it unfairly retaliated against them for organizing workers around social causes. The former employees said Tuesday they are preparing to file unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board this week.

All four were fired Nov. 25 for what Google said were violations of its data security policy.

Company officials wrote in a memo — without confirming the employees' names — that the four were “searching for, accessing, and distributing business information outside the scope of their jobs.”

But the four workers — Laurence Berland, Sophie Waldman, Rebecca Rivers and Paul Duke — say they believe they did not violate company policies and claim that Google is using the alleged violations as an excuse to terminate them for labor activity.

“This is an expression of Google’s management power,” Duke said.

“They are scared of worker



In this Oct. 31, 2018, file photo shows signage outside the offices of Google in San Francisco with the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge in the background.

power.” Google disputes that they fired the employees for organizing activity.

“No one has been dismissed for raising concerns or debating the company’s activities,” the company said in a statement. Google employees are known for being some of the most outspoken across the tech industry. Thousands of employees

walked out of work last year to protest the company’s handling of sexual misconduct claims, in what became known as the Google Walkout.

Since then, employees have petitioned for better benefits for contract workers, successfully argued for the end of mandatory arbitration and have opposed Google’s involvement in some government

projects. The company has also been known for an open, collaborative work culture since its early days, one that employee activists say is now getting closed off.

CEO Sundar Pichai’s weekly question-and-answer sessions with employees became monthly meetings.

Google also updated its community guidelines to

tell employees to avoid “disrupting the workday” to debate politics or other topics. Some workers complain both moves were meant to discourage open speech and crack down on employee pushback.

Waldman and Duke helped create a petition earlier this year that called for Google to refrain from bidding on a cloud computing contract with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol. Nearly 1,500 employees signed the petition, which said CBP had “engaged in human rights abuses” at the southern border and that Google should not work with the agency.

Rivers and Berland also helped spread the petition, and Berland has been involved in organizing other campaigns at the company, including those involving LGBTQ rights.

All four say they were questioned by Google officials in the past few months for sharing or accessing internal documents.

Two say they were placed on administrative leave last month.

The company said it found one worker set up notifications to be alerted about other employees’ calendar changes, which made those employees feel unsafe. □

Associated Press

Huawei moving U.S. research center to Canada

BEIJING (AP) — The founder of Huawei says the Chinese tech giant is moving its U.S. research center to Canada due to American sanctions on the company.

In an interview with Toronto’s Global and Mail newspaper, Ren Zhengfei said the move was necessary because Huawei would be blocked from interacting with U.S. employees.

Huawei Technologies Ltd. is the No. 2 global smartphone brand and the biggest maker of network gear for phone carriers. U.S. authorities say the company is a security risk, which Huawei denies, and announced

curbs in May on its access to American components and technology.

The Trump administration announced a 90-day reprieve on some sales to Huawei. The government said that would apply to components and technology needed to support wireless networks in rural areas.

Ren gave no details but Huawei confirmed in June it had cut 600 jobs at its Silicon Valley research center in Santa Clara, California, leaving about 250 employees. A Huawei spokesman said the company had no further comment.

“The research and development center will move from the United States, and

Canada will be the center,” Ren said in a video excerpt of the interview on the Globe and Mail website. “According to the U.S. ban, we couldn’t communicate with, call, email or contact our own employees in the United States.”

Huawei, China’s first global tech brand, is scrambling to preserve its business in the face of possible loss of access to U.S. components, which threatens to damage its smartphone business.

Huawei, headquartered in the southern city of Shenzhen, also operates research and development centers in Germany, India, Sweden and Turkey.

In November, Huawei



In this Nov. 20, 2019, photo, customers shop at a Huawei store at a shopping mall in Beijing.

Associated Press

started selling a folding smartphone, the Mate X, made without U.S.-supplied processor chips or Google apps. The com-

pany also has unveiled its own smartphone operating system it says can replace Google’s Android if necessary. □



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Holidays bring phishing scam surge aimed at small business

By **JOYCE M. ROSENBERG**
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The email looked legitimate, so Danielle Radin clicked on the link it contained, expecting to have her products included in a holiday gift guide.

"I instantly regretted it," says Radin, owner of Mantra Magnets, a website that sells wellness products. "It took me to some random website that looked like those pop-ups telling you that you've won the lottery."

Within days of that click three weeks ago, Radin began getting notifications that people in Ecuador, China and elsewhere were trying to access her email account. She wasn't surprised; she knew her San Diego-based small business had been the target of a phishing scam.

While cybercriminals strike at any time of the year, they're particularly active during the holiday and income tax filing seasons when computer users expect to see more emails — and scammers are increasingly targeting individual small businesses with phishing scams, sending messages that look legitimate but do harm instead. An unsuspecting owner or employee clicks on a link or attachment and like Radin finds that malicious software has invaded their PCs.

Cybersecurity experts find

that criminals who used to blanket thousands of computer users in hopes of fooling a handful have refined their methods. Scammers find small businesses through websites, social media sites and by combing email address books. They also mine personal data from breaches at retailers and other large companies. Then, using a process called social engineering, they construct emails that increasingly look realistic, as if they truly come from a boss, colleague, friend, potential client or vendor, a bank and even the IRS.

"In the last year or two they've been running more professional campaigns," says Perry Toone, owner of Theyz, an email service provider based in Toronto. "It can take a couple of minutes for me to determine that they're phishing scams. That tells me they're doing a very good job."

Radin believes the scammers found her through her website or a blog. Like many small businesses, she has an email address on her site, and the scammers figured out that she might be interested in selling via a holiday gift guide. But finding a target is one thing; the scam won't work unless it tricks an email recipient into clicking. Even those who are tech savvy can sometimes let their guard down. Radin was duped even though she's the au-

thor of "Everyone's Been Hacked," a book sold online.

Often a scam succeeds because there's just a shred of doubt in a computer user — the email is realistic enough that an owner or employee feels they need to read it. Sometimes a staffer clicks out of fear or a sense of responsibility, says Rahul Telang, a professor of information systems at Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College.

"It might not sound very personal, but you have an idea that you should go ahead — you feel like the email is coming from the boss," he says.

Computer users may not be looking as closely as they should at an email — there can be subtle signs that a message is trouble. Terry Cole, owner of Cole Informatics, a company whose work includes cybersecurity, recalls getting an email that truly seemed to be from a colleague. He was one of several people in the industry to receive it.

"It said that this colleague had sent me a secure private message that was ready for me to read and included a link to click. This was absolutely consistent with my normal experiences communicating with him," says Cole, whose company is located in Parsons, Tennessee.

Cole didn't do in that instance what he usually does and advises every-



In this Oct. 8, 2019, file photo a woman types on a keyboard in New York.

Associated Press

one to do: check the email address to be sure it's completely correct. When he clicked on the link, it took him to a bogus website claiming to be connected with Microsoft and asking him for his ID and password. He went no further and suffered no damage to his PC. The holidays provide scammers with extra opportunities: emailed greeting cards, package shipment notices, offers of discounts — all of them false. Cybercriminals also seek personal information from owners and employees under the guise of needing them to create a W-2 or 1099 tax form; at this time of year, business owners' thoughts are turning to taxes.

"Something that claims to know you, your name, where you work and wants you to take some action is harder to spot," says Sherrod DeGrippe, senior direc-

tor of threat research and detection at Proofpoint, a cybersecurity company based in Sunnyvale, California.

A common scam at holiday time is an email purportedly from the boss telling a staffer to go buy gift cards and email the numbers back, DeGrippe says.

"When it appears to come from a boss or CEO, I think there is that tendency among employees to follow those directions. They're playing on their emotions," she says.

Often, a scam succeeds in getting an employee to click on a personal email while on a company PC — many workers check their personal email while at work.

Even though the email came through on a personal message, it's the company's machine that can be infected. □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



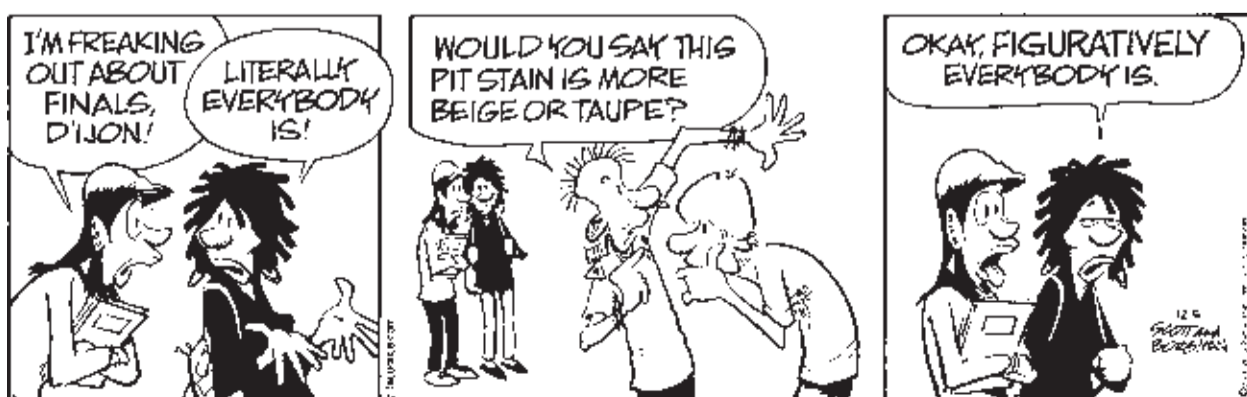
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		3	2		7	4
7					3	
3	6			4		
8		1		8		3
4				6	5	
			1		6	8
	8					5
2	5		9	7		

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

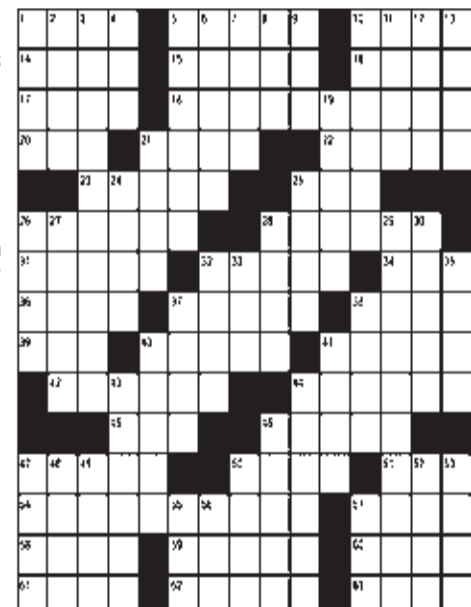
5	1	2	3	6	4	8	7	9
4	6	9	2	8	7	3	5	1
7	3	8	9	5	1	4	6	2
3	2	1	5	7	6	9	8	4
9	5	7	8	4	3	2	1	6
6	8	4	1	9	2	5	3	7
1	9	3	6	2	8	7	4	5
2	4	6	7	3	5	1	9	8
8	7	5	4	1	9	6	2	3

ACROSS

- 1 Twosome
- 5 Indian social pass
- 10 Puncture
- 14 Beans; lit equines
- 15 Choir members
- 16 or la se les
- 17 Acting award
- 18 Leading the way
- 20 As in: lode
- 21 Vase a cup of tea
- 22 Very funny people
- 23 Truck Finn's creator
- 25 11th of 12; abor
- 26 Martin and Charne
- 28 Tightwad
- 31 Removes an apple's center
- 32 Prayer before meals
- 34 "Please Don't" "the Daisies"
- 36 Ardent
- 37 Pet score point
- 38 Epiphany visitors
- 39 Cuba
- 40 Sunflower health snack
- 41 Actor Romeo
- 42 Andean pack animal
- 44 Select
- 45 Hitchhike or Scorsese abor
- 45 away; tabbertasied
- 47 Move over a bit
- 50 Boom of thunder
- 51 Author Doyle's monogram
- 54 Acrobatic
- 57 Ending for lex or convert
- 58 Hearing chamber
- 59 First, second mind & home
- 60 Run-down urban area
- 61 Onobaga board inserts
- 62 Larynx
- 63 Pegs for Tiger

DOWN

- 1 Bargain; avoid a trial
- 2 Shock's carefully
- 3 Of no importance
- 4 Sunbeam
- 5 Women's pants
- 6 E.T. for one
- 7 away put into storage
- 8 Wa that went over like a of bricks
- 9 Suffix for Bengal or Japan
- 10 for work to octa-
- 11 Yuseubeers or Stooges
- 12 Mother's sister
- 13 Asks for an arms
- 19 Like a serrated surface
- 21 Group of musicians
- 24 Unruffled plant
- 25 Friendly area
- 26 Con artist's pot
- 27 Shanty
- 28 Dallas' tear family
- 29 Not extreme
- 30 Long stones
- 32 The Bee brothers
- 33 Bushing
- 35 Become languid
- 37 Boss or Barlett
- 38 Cat's cry
- 40 Whack
- 41 Use an ax
- 43 Gussies up
- 44 Taster; dignified
- 46 Besse Smith's music
- 47 around; bargain-hunt
- 48 Small bay
- 49 Neighbor of Idaho; abbr.
- 50 Price to acquire
- 52 Crossword definition
- 53 Clinton & Obama abbr.
- 55 Org for Spurs and Suns
- 56 Ducky or Flamer
- 57 Suffix for woman or four



Created by Jacqueline E. Matthews

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

PAPA	EMIT	SLIM
USHER	VEER	HOLE
MALIA	AGREEABLE	
APE	BAD	ARREST
BOISE	SEE	
ELOPES	TUCSON	
RITES	FLIRT	BOA
ICON	SLIME	CLOG
KIM	ROADS	POISE
TYCOON	BARGED	
HUT	LANKA	
ENOUGH	AND	TEN
CONCEITED	ADORE	
ROCK	NEAL	SERBS
UKES	GATE	CYST

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Report: Rikers guards failed to stop inmate from self-harm

NEW YORK (AP) — Four Rikers Island guards were suspended after they allegedly failed to stop an inmate from harming himself in a jail cell, according to a New York Times report Tuesday that cited four people familiar with the matter. The Times, relying on the four people who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly, reported that some of the guards involved watched before intervening as an inmate attempted to hang himself. The people told the Times that the guards took seven minutes to intervene. Department of Correction Commissioner Cynthia Brann said that three officers and a captain were suspended. "The claims being made here are extremely troubling," Brann said in a statement, adding that an investigation is underway. The inmate, identified by the Times' sources as 18-year-old Nicholas Feliciano, was reportedly placed in a medically induced coma at a hospital Tuesday. Feliciano allegedly attempted to hang himself last week in an area of the notorious New York City lockup that was in view of a guard desk where offi-

cers can monitor activity through video feeds. The actions of the officers were recorded by a separate camera, the people told the Times. Elias Husamudeen, the president of the Correction Officers' Benevolent Association, said in a statement that the officers would "be given the best legal representation possible to ensure their rights are fully protected under the law." The video, which was described to the Times, reportedly shows an officer going into the jail cell where Feliciano was, opening the door, closing it without going inside and then walking away. Feliciano was in the Elmhurst Hospital Prison Ward on Tuesday, according to city jail records. He was on a respirator with no brain activity, the Times reported. He was arrested on Nov. 19 on a parole violation. New York City lawmakers voted in October to close the Rikers Island jail complex, which has become synonymous with violence and neglect, and replace it with four smaller jails intended to be more modern and humane. Rikers Island has housed jail inmates since the 1930s and has long been known for brutality. □

Classifieds

Halley Time Travel

Marriott Surf Club

Gold Season
2 BR Garden View \$ 5 K
2 BR Ocean View \$ 7 K
2 BR Ocean Side \$ 8 K
2 BR Ocean Front \$14K
3 BR Ocean View \$13K

Marriott Ocean Club

Gold Season
1 BR Ocean View \$ 4 K
1 BR Ocean Front \$ 9 K
2 BR Ocean View \$ 8 K
2 BR Ocean Front \$14K

Divi Phoenix

2 BR Penthouse wk 49 and 50 building 7 on the 7 th floor
32 weeks remain \$ 24 K each
2 BR wk 50 building 6 3rd floor
33 weeks remain \$22 K

Divi Village

studio wk 47 and 48 \$ 5 K each building A with 30 weeks
Paradise Beach Villas
1 BR WK # 47
2sd floor garden view \$ 4500

La Cabana beach and casino

1 BR Wk # 47 \$ 4.5 K
4th floor Thursday check in
2 BR wk 48 and 49
E - unit ocean front ground floor \$15 K each

Dutch Village

1 BR wk 46
12 weeks remain \$5 K
2 BR wk 47
17 weeks remain contract expire 2028 \$5,5 K

Renaissance Suites

1 BR wk 48 harbor V.
5th floor \$5 K
1 BR wk 49 and 50 pool OV
3 rd floor \$6,5 K each
1 BR Wk 51 harbor view
5 th floor \$ 9K

Divi Village

1 BR wk 50
building C 3rd floor
17 weeks remain \$ 6K

Divi Links

1 BR wk 51
Birdie 1 with 26 weeks remain \$12.5 K

Divi Links

1 BR WK 48 Birdie 2
with 30 weeks remain \$ 5 K
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26 weeks remain \$24 K

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Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
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Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

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American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

CRUISES



December 5
Carnival Horizon
Explorer of the Seas

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Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989
Women in Difficulties
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Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888
Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433
Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118

TODAY BONDIA
How to reach us!
Downtown

Global carbon pollution continues to rise, but more slowly

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The world continues to increase the amount of heat-trapping carbon dioxide it pumps into the air, but it's not rising as fast as in the previous couple years. Led by big jumps from China and India, the world is projected to spew 40.57 billion tons (36.8 billion metric tons) of carbon dioxide into the air in 2019. That's up nearly 255 million tons (231 million metric tons) from 2018, according to two scientific studies released Tuesday.

The studies by Global Carbon Project, a group of international scientists who track emissions, show a 0.6% increase from last year.

In previous years, global carbon dioxide emissions grew by 2.1% and 1.5% after a few years in the mid 2010s when global emissions barely rose, according to the studies in Environmental Research Letters. Carbon dioxide from the burning of coal, oil and gas has caused 1.8 degrees of warming (1 degree Celsius) since pre-industrial times and world leaders are meeting in Madrid to try to limit warming to another 1.8 degrees from now.

"Emissions grew more slowly than last year but we still set a global record. It's hard to be upbeat about that," said study co-author Rob Jackson, a Stanford University climate scientist. "The U.S. National Academy of Sciences sounded the alarm on carbon and climate 40 years ago. Since then, global carbon dioxide emissions have doubled, and the world is hurtling towards catastrophic climate change."



In this Nov. 28, 2019 file photo, smoke and steam rise from a coal processing plant that produces carbon black, an ingredient in steel manufacturing, in Hejin in central China's Shanxi Province.

Associated Press

The 2019 estimate is based on data through the first nine to ten months of the year, with a few national estimates based only on six months of data, said co-author Glen Peters, a climate scientist in Norway. Past projections have proven pretty accurate, he said.

That means every second this year people put 2.57 million pounds of carbon dioxide in Earth's atmosphere. That's the equivalent weight of two Airbus A380s, the world's largest passenger airliner, going into the air every second.

Both the United States and the European Union saw emissions drop 1.7% from 2018 to 2019, but China saw a 2.6% increase and India had a 1.8% rise. China is by far the biggest carbon polluter, with 28% of the 2019 emissions.

The United States is No. 2 at 14.5%.

"Generally, I think this is bad news.

Not terrible news, but bad news," said Cornell University climate scientist Natalie Mahowald, who wasn't part of the report.

"A stronger switch from coal to solar or wind needs to happen to reach low climate targets."

Led by 10% drops in both the United States and Europe, carbon pollution from coal dropped worldwide nearly 1% but increased

2.6% from cleaner natural gas, according to the studies.

Coal still is the No. 1 source of man-made carbon pollution putting 16 billion tons (14.6 billion metric tons) of carbon dioxide in the air this year, followed by oil and then gas. Coal generally emits 76% more carbon dioxide than natural gas to produce the same amount of energy, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

"I don't think we have completely seen the end of coal yet, but it is certainly in the death throes," Peters said.

"Though, I would imagine a slow and protracted decline of coal because of the young infrastructure in Asia." But with coal dropping or even just plateauing, it is now apparent that the world is not quite on the worst-case scenario carbon emissions path of the four charted by the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Peters said. But the next two highest emission scenarios, which the world is closer to, are not "pleasant worlds to live in," he said.

Princeton University climate scientist Michael Oppenheimer, who wasn't part of the study, called the numbers grim: "Stepping back and looking at 30 years of data, there is nothing at all that reveals any reason to be optimistic that the world is about to turn the corner on reducing carbon dioxide emissions." From 2000 to 2018, the United Kingdom has cut its carbon pollution by about one-third, Greece and Italy cut their emissions by more than 28%. At the same time, China's carbon pollution has tripled and India's has increased by 157%. □

SpaceX delays space station delivery due to high wind

MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — SpaceX has delayed its delivery to the International Space Station because of dangerous wind gusts.

The Falcon 9 rocket came less than an hour from launching Wednesday. But the company halted the countdown because of excessive upper-level wind at Cape Canaveral and also out in the Atlantic. SpaceX wants to land the brand new booster on an offshore barge following liftoff so it can be reused. SpaceX said it would try again early Thursday



A Falcon 9 SpaceX rocket on a resupply mission to the International Space Station stands ready for launch at Space Launch Complex 40 at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Cape Canaveral, Fla., Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019.

Associated Press

afternoon. While the wind should be calmer, it may be cloudier.

The Dragon capsule contains 3 tons of supplies for NASA, including 'mighty

mice' for a muscle and bone study and barley for a beer-malting experiment. This will be the third trip to the space station for this recycled Dragon. □



In this Thursday, Nov. 21, 2019 photo, the faces of the three Finneytown students killed in a stampede at The Who's Dec. 3, 1979 concert, are displayed as part of a memorial at the Finneytown High School secondary campus in Finneytown, Ohio.

Associated Press

The Who plans 1st Cincy area concert since '79 tragedy

By DAN SEWELL
Associated Press

CINCINNATI (AP) — The rock band The Who announced Tuesday night it will play its first Cincinnati area concert since 11 fans died 40 years ago in a pre-show stampede. The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame band will play April 23 at Northern Kentucky University's BB&T Arena, across the Ohio River 7 miles south of the Dec. 3, 1979, concert site, where another two dozen people were injured Dec. 3, 1979, amid confusion and lack of preparation for thousands of fans lined up for hours for first-come seats.

The announcement came after WCPO-TV in Cincinnati aired a Tuesday night documentary featuring interviews with lead singer Roger Daltrey and guitarist Pete Townshend, the remaining original members of the British band that emerged in the 1960s featuring songs of youthful rebellion such as "My Generation" and its "Summertime Blues" cover.

Both have said they've been haunted by the tragedy. Townshend recently told The Associated Press he was looking forward to discussing it in Cincinnati.

"Now we can have a conversation about it when we go back," Townshend said.

"We will meet people and we'll be there. We'll be there. That's what's important," he said. "I'm so glad that we've got this opportunity to go back."

The band is adding the concert to its "Moving On!" tour 2020 dates.

The Who said it will donate a portion of proceeds from the Cincinnati area concert to a memorial scholarship fund benefiting students in the Cincinnati suburb of Finneytown. Daltrey visited a Finneytown High School memorial site in 2018 and the band has for years supported the scholarship effort there. Three of the 11 killed, including two 15-year-old girls who were the youngest victims, had attended Finneytown High.

The band didn't know about the tragedy until the concert was ending. Longtime manager Bill Curbishley had made the decision to have the show go on, warning Cincinnati authorities that they wouldn't be able to control the crowd if the concert was called off.

"Despite everything, I still feel inadequate," he told WCPO. "I don't know about the guys, but for me, I left a little bit of my soul in Cincinnati." □



In this July 12, 2019, file photo, former opera singer Patricia Wulf, poses for a portrait in her home in Virginia.

Associated Press

Domingo's accusers: Nothing 'chivalrous' about groping women

By JOCELYN GECKER
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Two opera singers who accused Placido Domingo of sexual misconduct said Tuesday that it was disappointing and disturbing that the opera legend recently claimed he has always behaved like a gentleman and never acted improperly toward women.

Angela Turner Wilson and Patricia Wulf were among more than 20 women who accused Domingo of sexual harassment or inappropriate sexually charged behavior in two Associated Press reports this summer.

Their new statement came in response to comments Domingo made in two recent interviews with European publications, in which he disputed the allegations against him and said he never abused his power. He said he always behaved like a gentleman but that "gallant gestures are viewed differently nowadays."

"There is nothing 'chivalrous' or 'gallant' about groping a woman in the workplace, in any country or era," Wilson and Wulf said in the statement issued through their at-

torney, Debra Katz. The Grammy Award-winning singer is one of the most celebrated men in the opera world and regarded as one of the greatest opera singers of all time. The long-married, Spanish-born star also is a prolific conductor and longtime administrator, having served as the general director of both the Los Angeles Opera and Washington Opera.

In the AP stories, several singers, a dancer and backstage staff at opera companies accused Domingo of sexual harassment and other inappropriate, sexually charged behavior that included unwelcomed kisses, touching and late-night phone calls.

Many said Domingo tried to pressure them into sexual relationships and sometimes punished them professionally if they rejected him. The accusers and dozens of others interviewed said Domingo's behavior was an open secret in the opera world. Until recently, the 78-year-old had not spoken publicly about the allegations and had limited his reaction to statements from his lawyer and publicist. He had called the accusations "in many

ways, simply incorrect" without elaborating.

Last week, Domingo gave an interview to Spanish online newspaper El Confidencial in which he again stopped short of flatly denying the women's allegations but insisted he had never behaved improperly. He added that Spaniards are by nature "warm, affectionate and loving."

"I have been gallant but always within the limits of gentlemanliness, respect and sensitivity," he said.

Domingo also spoke to Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera, denying he abused his power and saying casting decisions were not made by him but by "a team of four or five people." He said that "very offensive things were said about me as a human being."

"He did not behave like a gentleman when he repeatedly propositioned women for sex in the workplace ... and when he groped them and kissed them over their objections," the statement said. "He did not behave respectfully when he offered to assist with the careers of aspiring female opera singers if they came to his apartment and had sex with him." □

Iconic Southern rock recording studio is revived in Georgia

By **JEFF MARTIN**
Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — The Georgia music studio that fused blues, country and other sounds into Southern rock is being reborn.

Capricorn Sound Studios in Macon helped propel the Allman Brothers Band and other groups to stardom in the 1970s.

Capricorn's historic Studio A is reopening this week, after years of work by Mer-

cer University and other supporters to restore and equip it with state-of-the-art technology.

"It's a place that spawned a decade of remarkable creative activity," Mercer President William Underwood said in an interview. It also helped make Macon one of the nation's music capitals. Underwood hopes the renovated studio will help preserve Macon's place among cities



In this May 16, 2016, file photo, Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Gregg Allman performs during Mercer University's Commencement at Hawkins Arena in Macon, Ga.

Associated Press

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PBP SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1:00PM

QUE LEONES
OZUNA | CLARISSA MOLINA
SPANISH
PH MON-THU 6:10 | 8:30
FRI 6:10 | 8:30 | 10:50
SAT 3:50 | 6:10 | 8:30 | 10:50
SUN 3:50 | 6:10 | 8:30
PBP MON-THU 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:20
FRI 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SAT 2:35 | 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SUN 2:35 | 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:20

WAVES
TAYLOR RUSSELL | KELVIN HARRISON JR.
PBP MON-FRI 5:45
SAT-SUN 2:50 | 5:45

THE COURIER
OLGA KURYLENKO | GARY OLDMAN
PH MON-FRI 7:10 | 9:30
SAT-SUN 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30

THE GOOD LIAR
HELEN MIRREN | IAN MCKELLEN
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
PH MON-FRI 6:45 | 9:10
SAT-SUN 1:55 | 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:10

21 BRIDGES
CHADWICK BOSEMAN | J.K. SIMMONS

FROZEN II
KRISTEN BELL | IDINA MENZEL
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG
PH MON-THU 6:00 | 7:20 | 8:35
FRI 6:00 | 7:20 | 8:35 | 10:00
SAT 2:30 | 3:30 | 4:55 | 6:00 | 7:20 | 8:35 | 10:00
SUN 2:30 | 3:30 | 4:55 | 6:00 | 7:20 | 8:35

ALSO SHOWING!

THE ONLY WAY OUT IS THROUGH
DANIEL CRAIG | CHRISTOPHER YOUNG
PH MON-THU 6:00 | 8:20
FRI 6:00 | 8:20 | 10:40
SAT 3:40 | 6:00 | 8:20 | 10:40
SUN 3:40 | 6:00 | 8:20
PBP MON-THU 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30
FRI 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 11:45
SAT 2:45 | 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 11:45
SUN 2:45 | 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30

Knives Out
DANIEL CRAIG | CHRIS EVANS
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG-13
PBP MON-FRI 3:45 | 6:30 | 9:15
SAT-SUN 1:00 | 3:45 | 6:30 | 9:15

CHARLES ANGELS
KRISTEN STEWART | NAOMI SCOTT
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG-13
PBP MON-FRI 6:45 | 9:20

FORD v FERRARI
CHRISTIAN BALE | MATT DAMON
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG-13
PBP MON-SUN 8:40

OPENING TOMORROW: PATI PATNI AUR WOH

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that forged the music history of the United States — places like Nashville and Memphis in Tennessee, Muscle Shoals in Alabama and Detroit, Chicago and New Orleans.

Macon's civic leaders view Southern rock through a far different lens these days than in the 1970s.

Southern rockers and Southern Baptists traveled in different orbits back then. The Capricorn music scene — part of the drug-infused counterculture movement of the time — was not always welcome in conservative Middle Georgia.

Now, Capricorn and Southern rock are officially sanctioned by today's leaders, many of whom were fans in their younger days. Underwood, for instance, grew up listening to Southern rock and considers The Allman Brothers Band "the greatest jam band ever."

In planning the new music complex, Underwood and others visited music hubs including Nashville, where Elvis Presley and others recorded their hits in RCA's Studio B.

"There are people all over the world who travel to see these restored studios," said Larry Brumley, a senior vice president at Mercer.

Macon-area officials hope the restoration — funded with help from two charitable foundations and other

private donors — will help spur downtown redevelopment.

The restored Macon studio is part of Mercer Music at Capricorn, a 20,000-square-foot (1,860-square-meter) complex that will include a museum. Among its goals: To train and inspire new musicians. To that end, the Capricorn Music Incubator will provide 12 rehearsal rooms for musicians to hone their craft.

The idea is "to be a place to bring talented, creative people together and have them interact and engage with one another," Underwood said.

"One day hopefully the next Otis Redding will come out of that incubator," he said. Redding's voice became emblematic of Macon music six decades ago, after Mercer University student Phil Walden discovered his vocal talents while booking local bands for fraternity parties.

In 1969, Capricorn Records was formed by Walden and others, including Frank Fenton and producer Jerry Wexler of Atlantic Records.

"My father loved the South, he loved Georgia and he especially loved Macon," Phil Walden's daughter, Amantha, said at Tuesday's dedication ceremony. "He loved Southern music deep inside his soul."

"My father's life mission was

to show the world what the South was capable of, and today we are here to celebrate a chapter of that mission," she added.

Walden, his brother Alan Walden and their business partners discovered new artists who went on to create what became Southern rock.

The Allman Brothers Band became so popular that they helped a former Georgia governor named Jimmy Carter win the 1976 presidential election by performing at campaign events, Carter has said. Carter told Mercer graduates at their 2016 commencement that he might not have been elected if the band hadn't "adopted" him.

"Gregg Allman was better known than I was at that time," Carter said in 2017. "The band got the campaign political attention and raised much needed funds."

When Underwood became Mercer's president, the vacant offices that once housed Capricorn were a shambles, with one exception. A second venue, Studio B, will be used for larger-scale recordings and to host concerts and other special events. Film scores could be recorded there, tying into Georgia's booming movie industry, Underwood said. □

Cavill: Door 'hasn't closed' on Superman, but 1st, 'Witcher'

By RYAN PEARSON

AP Entertainment Writer
WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif.

(AP) — Henry Cavill is all-in on his Netflix fantasy series "The Witcher," but he says the "door hasn't closed" on a return as Superman in the DC cinematic universe. Cavill last played the superhero in 2017's "Justice League" and it's unclear whether any upcoming movies will feature the character.

Cavill dons a long white wig to play monster hunter Geralt of Rivia in "The Witcher," an ambitious eight-episode adaptation of Polish author Andrzej Sapkowski's books. With intense magic, scheming political factions and epic battles, it's targeting the audiences that made "Game of Thrones" a worldwide phenomenon.

"I live in the fantasy genre anyway, that's my hobby. And so for me, it was always — it was always obvious. It was like yes, of course, these shows can be popular," Cavill said. "It was always a target. I always wanted to bring things like

this to to the screen in one way, shape or form."

The show premieres on Netflix on Dec. 20, and production begins early next year on a second season. The series features Cavill's Geralt engaging in intricately choreographed swordplay, relaxing in a bath and talking to his horse — all recognizable moments for fans of the acclaimed hit 2015 role-playing game "The Witcher 3." Cavill says his horse chats recalled his real-life dialogue with his American Akita dog Kal, who shows up regularly on his Instagram feed.

"That's exactly what I was channeling when I was interacting with Roach (the horse), it was 100 percent the relationship Kal and I have," he said. "Geralt may be a little harder. Generally, he's been living in a harsher world and hated by a lot of people for longer than I have."

Cavill was a fan of "The Witcher 3" before he landed the series. He says he imagined himself in the role

while playing the game, which runs for dozens of hours. "What CD Projekt Red did with the game was extraordinary. And so all the work is kind of done for you. It's all visualized in a spectacular world," he said. "Every time I played the games, all I thought was how can I recreate this in a certain way? And where would it be possible? How is it possible? Is there anywhere in the world that looks like this?"

There are several films based on DC superheroes in the works, including sequels to "Wonder Woman" and "Aquaman." □



This cover image released by Pegasus Books shows "From Sea to Stormy Sea: 17 Stories Inspired by Great American Paintings," edited by Lawrence Block.

Associated Press

17 stories inspired by great American paintings

By ANN LEVIN
Associated Press

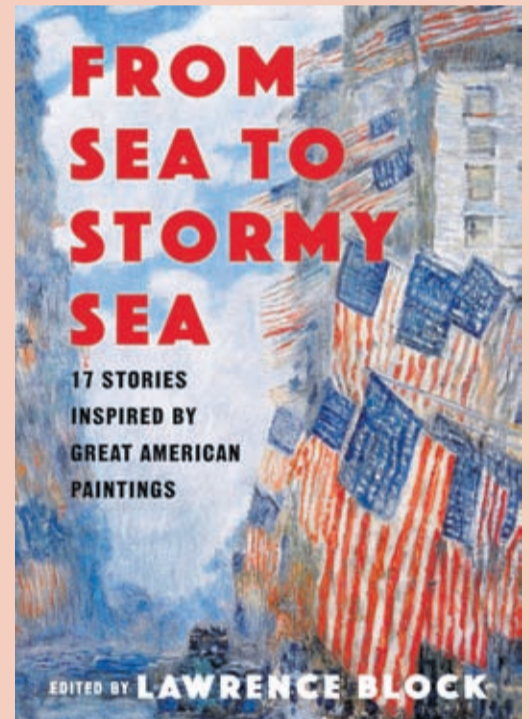
"From Sea to Stormy Sea: 17 Stories Inspired by Great American Paintings," Pegasus Books, edited by Lawrence Block Writers take their inspiration from a variety of sources: an unforgettable face, overheard conversation or perhaps, a painting.

The well-known crime writer Lawrence Block has parlayed that last scenario into two volumes of short stories, the first inspired by works of Edward Hopper and the second, favorite paintings of his authors.

Now he has come out with a third, "From Sea to Stormy Sea," an anthology of 17 stories that riff exclusively on American paintings, from Robert Henri's portrait of Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney to Andy Warhol's mural for the 1964 World's Fair, "Thirteen Most Wanted Men," and Mark Rothko's shimmering "Number 14."

Since the writers he's chosen tend to specialize in crime and genre fiction, the stories are chock-full of loners, losers and cynics who get to say snappy lines like, "Sex. Religion. Dining out. Sooner or later, some human being is going to make you regret participating in any or all of the above." (Spoken by the enterprising heroine of Jan Burke's "Superficial Injuries.")

One of the very best is "Baptism in Kansas" by detective writer Sara Paretsky, who uses the 1928 John Stuart Curry painting of the same name to conjure up a vivid portrait of the hardscrabble lives of white farmers in Kansas in the early 1900s, their religious revivals, as depicted in the artwork, and racist campaigns to get rid of the Native American population.



This cover image released by Pegasus Books shows "From Sea to Stormy Sea: 17 Stories Inspired by Great American Paintings," edited by Lawrence Block.

Associated Press

Other standouts include "The Man From Hard Rock Mountain," a post-apocalyptic fantasy by Jerome Charyn based on the eerie Rockwell Kent engraving, "Twilight of Man," and the deliciously noir "On Little Terry Road" by Tom Franklin and "Get Him" by Micah Nathan, inspired by paintings of the lesser known artists John Hull and Daniel Morper.

Not all the stories work, but enough do to make it worth it. Admirers of Winslow Homer's stormy seascapes will likely enjoy "Adrift off the Diamond Shoals," by Brendan DuBois, which pivots on a writer seeking revenge on a sleazy real estate developer who wants to knock down his family's modest house on North Carolina's Outer Banks to put up a "capitalist castle." □

Kid Rock's Detroit eatery closing after his anti-Oprah rant

By COREY WILLIAMS and
JEFF KAROUB

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — A Kid Rock-owned restaurant in Detroit's Little Caesars Arena will close once its licensing agreement expires this spring, the singer and arena operator announced separately Wednesday.

The severing of ties between the suburban Detroit-born musician and Ilitch Holdings came days after video surfaced showing Kid Rock ranting against Oprah Winfrey, though neither party tied the parting to the video or the backlash that followed. The split also points to a widening estrangement between Kid Rock and the city he calls home.

"I appreciate all who have patronized our place and still have much love for the city of Detroit and the people/organizations that I have helped there for



In this Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2018 file photo, Kid Rock performs in Pontiac, Mich.

Associated Press

years, black, white, whatever, but learned long ago, go where you're celebrated, not tolerated," he wrote Wednesday on Facebook.

Kid Rock's Made in Detroit opened in 2017 in Little Caesars Arena, which is home to the NHL's Red Wings and the NBA's Detroit Pistons. □

Many couples say 'I do' to Zero-Waste weddings

By **KATHERINE ROTH**
Associated Press

To protect the environment, many couples are saying "I do" to Zero-Waste weddings, focusing on sustainability for everything from floral design and dresses to invitations and food.

The goal is to recycle, reuse, compost and otherwise keep anything from becoming trash in a landfill. Whether or not couples succeed in reaching the Zero-Waste goal, "they're certainly more conscious of the ecological impact of what they do, and are aiming for something as close to that as possible," says Rachel Sylvester, lifestyle editor at Real Simple magazine.

The key to success, experts say, is letting wedding planners, vendors and your reception venue know from the start that you're serious about going Zero Waste. Then be flexible enough to facilitate that.

"Flexibility and creativity are essential," Sylvester says.

Bea Johnson, one of the pioneers of the Zero-Waste movement, says, "You'd be amazed at what you



this photo provided by Laetitia Drouet, of France-based Kamelion Couture, shows a wedding dress created by her which was inspired by the Bea Johnson book "Zero Waste Home."

Associated Press

can find second-hand if you're open-minded and really look around." Her Zero Waste Home blog features a "bulk finder" tab that helps locate businesses selling food, drinks and other items free of plastic packaging.

Focusing on quality instead of quantity also helps, Johnson says: "The smaller the party, the easier it is to

make it truly Zero Waste." Her own Zero-Waste wedding was on a yacht, so space constraints limited the guest list to 40.

Kathryn Kellogg, who wrote extensively about her Zero-Waste wedding on her Going Zero Waste blog, hosted a reception for 60 people on a shoe-string budget of \$200 for everything. She bought bedsheets from a thrift shop to use as tablecloths, and borrowed dishes, tables and seating from friends and family.

"We were on a tight budget, so we were married at city hall with our closest family there, had a separate reception for about 60 people, and decided to save most of our money for a really great honeymoon in Maine," she says.

"Honestly, the hardest part was convincing our families to go along with it all. My biggest tip is not to stress things, and to balance expectations with reality. Ours may not have been the perfect Pinterest wedding, but that didn't make it less fun or meaningful."

Some Zero-Waste wedding tips:

FOOD AND DECOR

Choose cloth napkins, and authentic tableware, glassware and plates, rather than disposables.

der, and served pulled pork and pulled jackfruit for the main dishes," Kellogg says.

She and Johnson both recommend colorful displays of fruits, vegetables or even flower petals as table centerpieces that guests can take home and enjoy.

GIFTS

"Instead of traditional wedding gifts, we asked guests to each bring a side dish or something to drink, and contribute to our honeymoon fund," Kellogg says.

Other couples ask for donations to their favorite charity, or contributions toward a goal, such as a down payment on a house.

INVITATIONS

"For my wedding invitations, I bought card stock and painted a design on the front, but these days I'd say paperlesspost.com or another e-mail option would be the best Zero-Waste option," says Johnson.

If you're set on paper though, "go for recycled paper with vegetable ink," says Sylvester. Some papers are embedded with seeds, so guests can even soak the invitation in water and then plant it. □



This photo provided by Ten Speed Press shows a flower crown featured in the book "Seasonal Flower Arranging: Fill Your Home with Blooms, Branches, and Foraged Materials All Year Round" by Ariella Chezar.

Associated Press



This photo provided by Ten Speed Press shows a floral arch featured in the book "Seasonal Flower Arranging: Fill Your Home with Blooms, Branches, and Foraged Materials All Year Round" by Ariella Chezar.

Associated Press